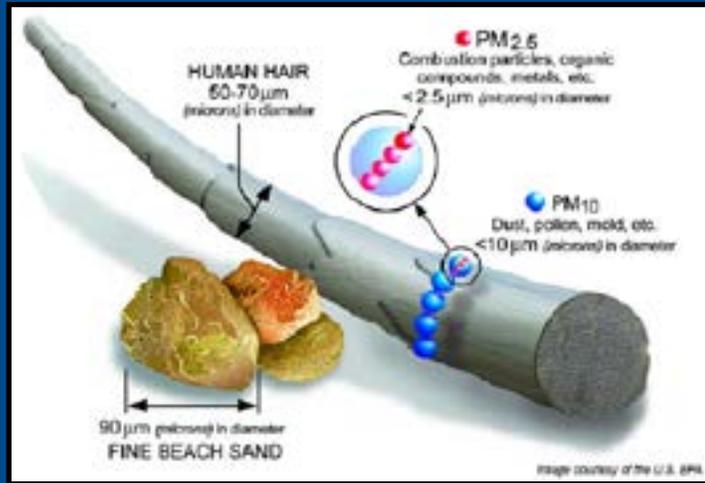


What is Fugitive Dust?

Fugitive dust is small particulate matter (PM) that is suspended in the air from soil that has been disturbed by wind or human activities such as earthmoving and vehicular and equipment traffic on unpaved surfaces.



Particulate Matter Can Be Hazardous to Your Health

The fugitive dust particles most significant to human health are less than ten micrometers in diameter. Due to their small size, these particulates can get deep into your lungs and can contribute to respiratory illness, lung damage, and even premature death in sensitive individuals.

Preventing Fugitive Dust Emissions

- Plan ahead by developing a dust prevention and control plan.
- Minimize the surface area disturbed. The less ground disturbed, the less dust raised.
- Take extra precautions on windy days.
- Clean up track out dirt immediately.
- Water and sweep roadways often.
- Reduce speed limits on unpaved surfaces to 10–15 miles per hour.
- Rinse vehicles before they leave the property and cover loads.
- Keep storage piles physically covered when not in use or use a dust suppressant spray to help reduce fugitive dust emissions.

Controlling Fugitive Dust Emissions

- Use dust suppression measures such as water or suppression chemicals when needed.
- Use storage silos, three-sided bunkers, open-ended buildings, or wind fencing to enclose handling areas.
- Grow vegetative ground cover to hold the soil in place.
- Use wind erosion controls such as bushes, trees, wood or rock walls, earthen banks, or porous wind or snow fences to prevent wind erosion.

Web Resources:

Controlling Fugitive Dust and Developing a Dust Prevention and Control Plan

www.deq.idaho.gov/air-quality/air-pollutants/fugitive-dust/



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
www.deq.idaho.gov

