



Air Quality Forecast and Caution - Extended

Date/Time Issued: Monday, August 24, 2020/3:00 p.m.

Next Update: Wednesday, August 26, 2020/3:00 p.m.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has extended an **Air Quality Forecast and Caution** to notify residents of **Ada, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, and Washington County** of degraded air quality. Due to a stagnant atmosphere and elevated pollutant levels, **BURNING RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT**. Air quality is currently in the **UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS*** category and is forecast to experience similar impacts over the next few days. The pollutants of concern are Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) and Ozone.

Woodstove Burning Restrictions

Residential wood burning activities are restricted. This burn ban will remain in effect until air quality has improved in accordance with local ordinances.

Outdoor Burning Restrictions

All outdoor open burning is prohibited by the Department of Environmental Quality in accordance with the Rules for the Control of Air Pollution in Idaho (IDAPA 58.01.01.550).

Health Impacts and Recommended Actions

When air quality is unhealthy for sensitive groups, sensitive persons* may experience health effects and should limit prolonged or heavy exertion and limit time spent outdoors. The general public is unlikely to be affected.

Contact

For more information, contact DEQ's Regional Office in Boise at (208) 373-0550.

For real-time air monitoring information, visit DEQ's website at airquality.deq.idaho.gov.

For more information concerning local ordinances contact your local city or county.

Air Quality Index (AQI):

Range	Category	Meaning
0 to 50	Good	Air quality is considered satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk
51 to 100	Moderate	Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
101 to 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups*	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.
151 to 200	Unhealthy	Everyone may begin to experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
201 to 300	Very Unhealthy	Health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is more likely to be affected.
301 to 500	Hazardous	Health alert: everyone may experience more serious health effects.

For more information on the AQI, visit http://www.epa.gov/airnow/aqi_brochure_02_14.pdf.

For more information about wildfire smoke, visit Idaho's Smoke Blog at idsmoke.blogspot.com.

* Sensitive groups include those with heart and lung disease, older adults, and children.