

News Release

For immediate release
11-14-2013



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



Attn: Local news, weather and assignment editors

Media cell phone: 559-284-6317

Gusty Winds Prompt Health Caution *Potential for Blowing Dust Valley-wide*

The potential for blowing dust this weekend as a result of gusty winds has prompted local air-pollution officials to issue a healthy cautionary statement through Sunday November 17, 2013]. The health caution is in effect in the following counties: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Valley portion of Kern.

Winds may produce areas of localized blowing dust, which can result in unhealthy concentrations of particulate matter 10 microns and smaller (PM10). Exposure to particulate pollution can cause serious health problems, aggravate lung disease, trigger asthma attacks and bronchitis, and increase risk of respiratory infections.

Where conditions warrant, people with heart or lung disease should follow their doctors' advice for dealing with episodes of particulate exposure. Additionally, older adults and children should avoid prolonged exposure or heavy exertion, depending on their local conditions.

Residents can check the nearest air monitor to their location to determine localized conditions. Visit the Real-time Air Advisory Network page on the District's website to subscribe for free:
http://www.valleyair.org/Programs/RAAN/raan_landing.htm.

For more information, visit www.valleyair.org or call a District office in Fresno (559-230-6000), Modesto (209-557-6400) or Bakersfield (661-392-5500).