

News Release

For immediate release

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San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



Attn: Local news, weather and assignment editors

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Soda Fire prompts smoke health caution in South Valley *Impacts most likely during nighttime hours*

Potential smoke impacts from the Soda Fire burning in Tulare County have prompted local air-pollution officials to issue a health cautionary statement through Monday for the foothills and eastern Valley floor portions of Tulare and Kern counties, particularly during evening and overnight hours.

Smoke produces dangerous fine-particulate matter (PM2.5), which causes serious health problems, aggravates lung disease, triggers asthma attacks and bronchitis, and increases the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

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).