News Release
For immediate release
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Attn: Local news, weather, health and assignment editors

Air officials issue north Valley health caution
*Wildfires send smoke to air basin*

Wildfires in Tehama County and the Sacramento Valley are sending smoke to the northern Valley counties of the Air District, especially San Joaquin and Stanislaus, prompting local air officials to issue a health cautionary statement.

The health caution is in effect through Saturday although smoke impacts may remain until the fires are extinguished.

Smoke from fires produces fine-particulate matter (PM2.5), which can cause serious health problems including lung disease, asthma attacks and increased risk of heart attacks and stroke. 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](http://www.valleyair.org/Programs/RAAN/raan_landing.htm).

For more information, visit [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org) or call a District office in Fresno (559-230-6000), Modesto (209-557-6400) or Bakersfield (661-381-1809).

The Valley Air District covers eight counties including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the Valley air basin portion of Kern. Visit [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org) to learn more.