



MONITORING *and* IMPROVING AIR QUALITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD *and* HOUSEHOLD

Industrial Emissions and
Air Quality Monitoring

CONTENTS

Summary

P. 2

Benefits

P. 2

Opportunities for Action

P. 3

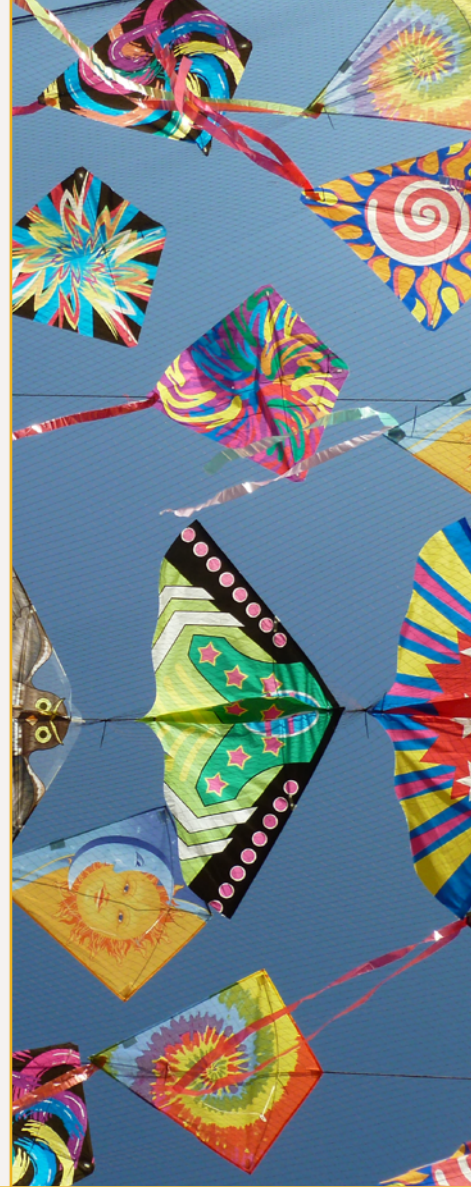
1. Stay up-to-date on the air quality reading in your neighborhood
2. Rent or buy an air quality sensor
3. Household tips
4. Transportation tips
5. Advocate for clean air

Helpful Links

P. 3

Partner Organizations

P. 5



SUMMARY

Everyone deserves the right to breathe clean and healthy air. Air pollution can lead to respiratory illnesses, especially for our most vulnerable populations: children, the elderly, and those with already compromised respiratory systems.

Studies also show that prolonged exposure to poor air quality can lead to respiratory illness, cardiovascular disease, premature births, and cognitive impairment. With the growing availability of free mobile apps and low-cost air sensors, everyone can help monitor air quality in their own communities to better understand these issues — and everyone can take action to improve the air where they live, work, and play.

BENEFITS

- Protect personal health, reduce hospital visits, and save lives
- Save money by reducing medical and health-care needs due to reduced exposure
- Make smarter decisions for you and your family around deciding when to spend time outdoors

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION:

Stay up-to-date on the air quality reading in your neighborhood:

- Get daily alerts by downloading SCAQMD's [mobile air quality app](#) or sign up for email alerts through [SCAQMD](#).
- Get the latest information from the EPA's [AirNow mobile app](#) or [emails](#) from the EPA. You can also check out the EPA's [AirNow network](#) and learn about the [Air Quality Index](#).
- During wildfires, check [here](#) to access more information.

Rent or buy an air quality sensor to monitor the air quality in your community:

- Visit the [SCAQMD AQ-Spec webpage](#) to view low-cost sensors that have been evaluated.
- Check out the [EPA Air Sensor Toolbox](#) to learn about how to use air sensors, understand what the sensor data means, and other air quality resources.



HELPFUL LINKS

Coming soon, Los Angeles Public Library locations will have hand-held air sensors available to check out for personal use, along with citizen science air sensor workshops throughout the year. Visit your local library or check out <https://lapl.org/steam/neisci> for more information.



Household Tips:

- When air quality is good (an AQI of 50 or below), improve natural ventilation indoors by opening windows to increase air flow.
- If you have an over-stove/hood fan that vents outside, use it whenever cooking, and especially when frying or using the oven at high temperatures, as cooking can create high levels of air pollutants.
- Swap out old, polluting appliances and take advantage of incentive programs:
 - The CleanAir Furnace rebate, Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment program, and the Wood Stove and Fireplace Replacement program all offer cleaner alternatives at reduced prices. Visit [this link](#) to learn more.
 - Report gas powered leaf blowers, which are illegal within 500 feet of a residence, to the Department of Public Works at 1-800-996-CITY.
- Minimize the use of home products that can create air pollution, such as artificial air fresheners, pesticides, aerosol sprays, adhesives, and harsh cleaning products. Use environmentally safe paints and cleaning products whenever possible.



Transportation Tips:

- Choose a cleaner commute — carpool, use public transportation, and bike or walk whenever possible.
- If you're in the market for a new car, try driving electric. Rebates are available for used and new EVs. Check out the [electric car action guide](#) to learn more.
- Change your car cabin air filter every 15,000 to 30,000 miles.
- Buy local. On average, our food travels 1,500 miles to make it to the grocery store and is a huge contributor to local air pollution.



Advocate for clean air:

- Take the California Clean Air Day pledge [here](#).
- Launch clean air advocacy campaigns, including actions such as car free day, promoting anti-idling, supporting safe routes to school, and advocating for alternative modes of transportation.
- Host a virtual roundtable on air quality with local leaders, businesses, and scientists to educate your community.
- Create a webpage on your Neighborhood Council website dedicated to clean air action and information.



The Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to protect public health, improve air quality and prevent climate change, with a focus on climate equity, ports & freight transport and clean transportation. They convene Clean Air Day, an annual statewide event focused on driving individual and collective action on air pollution reduction. You can find out more at www.ccair.org.



The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange County, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. The region is home to more than 17 million people—about half the population of the entire state of California. SCAQMD is required to demonstrate compliance with federal air quality standards set by the EPA's NAAQS.

PARTNERS



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is an independent executive agency of the United States federal government tasked with environmental protection matters. The EPA's mission is to protect human and environmental health and the agency is responsible for creating standards and laws promoting the health of individuals and the environment. Within their regulatory control is setting standards for allowable limits of air pollution in the U.S. through the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).