



DATE: Dec. 11, 2014

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Particulate Matter-2.5 High Pollution Advisory Issued for Nogales Area Sunday Because of Expected Fireplace Burning

PHOENIX (Dec. 11, 2014) -- The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has issued a High Pollution Advisory (HPA) for Nogales and vicinity for PM-2.5, or fine particulate matter 2.5 microns or less in size, for Sunday.

The HPA is being issued because stagnant atmospheric conditions are expected on Sunday after a cold front moves through the area Saturday during the day and freezing temperatures are expected to result in more fireplace activity.

ADEQ recommends that children and adults with respiratory problems avoid outdoor activities and suggests that the general public limit outdoor activity on Sunday. Nogales and vicinity residents should avoid activities that generate fine dust like wood burning in fireplaces, stoves, chimineas and outdoor fire pits and driving on dirt roads.

PM-2.5 is extremely small solid particles and liquid droplets found circulating in the air which comes from stirred dust or combustion from either cars, industry or wood burning. High levels of PM are typically created when the air is especially stagnant or especially windy. One particle of PM-2.5 is about one-thirtieth the size of a human hair.

ADEQ provides a daily air quality forecast for Nogales at <http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/ozone/nogales.pdf>. To subscribe to the Nogales and vicinity air quality forecast, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZDEQ/subscriber/new>, enter your email address and check "Nogales Air Quality Forecast."