



PM₁₀ Air Pollutant - YUMA

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is issuing a same day High Pollution Advisory (HPA) for Tues., Mar. 22, 2016 for coarse particulate matter (PM₁₀), also known as dust, for the Yuma area.

The HPA is being issued because ADEQ's forecast for the Yuma area indicates that blowing dust from gusty winds developing behind a cold front is highly likely.

ADEQ recommends that children and adults with respiratory problems avoid outdoor activities throughout the day on Tues. during periods of blowing dust and suggests the general public limit outdoor activity. ADEQ further recommends that Yuma area residents avoid activities that generate dust like driving on dirt roads and using leaf blowers.

BACKGROUND:

High Pollution Advisory or HPA: The highest level of an air pollutant may exceed the federal health standard.

Particulate Matter: State and county agencies measure levels of particulate matter (PM) in the air. PM is extremely small solid particles and liquid droplets that circulate in air. PM comes from combustion (cars, industry, wood burning) or dust stirred up into the air. High levels of PM occur when air is especially stagnant or windy. Two types of PM are measured: PM₁₀, which commonly is called dust, and PM_{2.5}, commonly called soot. PM₁₀ refers to dust that is 10 microns or less and PM_{2.5} soot that is 2.5 microns or less. For perspective, one strand of human hair is 70-100 microns in size.

CONTACTS:

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) provides a daily forecast for air quality and issues HPAs or health watches in cases where they are expected.

To view tomorrow's forecast, please visit:

<http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/ozone/yumef.pdf>

To sign up to receive air quality forecasts via email and/or text message, please visit:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZDEQ/subscriber/new>

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