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ADEQ to Celebrate Arizona Air Quality Awareness Week by Posting Stories Online that Examine Valley Air Quality

PHOENIX (April 26, 2013) – Arizona Department of Environmental Quality officials announced today that the agency will be celebrating Arizona Air Quality Awareness Week next week by offering a series of stories on ADEQ’s website that examine the issues and science concerning Valley air quality.

Among the subjects to be addressed are air pollutants and the health problems they cause, the influence of weather on dust and ozone pollution levels, how to reduce pollution and the risk it causes, and how Valley pollution levels have been reduced the past 25 years. The stories will be posted daily on ADEQ’s website at http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/air_aware.html.

“Making sure that the air that we breathe is clean is of paramount importance to all of us,” said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. “I encourage everyone to read the stories that we post on our web site to familiarize themselves with the issues and to take steps on the personal level to reduce air pollution. That can be as simple as waiting until after dark to fill up your vehicle on hot summer days to reduce ozone.”

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has designated April 29-May 3 as Air Quality Awareness Week throughout the country and also has much useful information on the subject at <http://www.epa.gov/airnow/airaware/>.

Arizona also will play host to the 14th Annual National Tribal Forum on Air Quality, which will be next Tuesday through Thursday at Fort McDowell Resort and Casino, located on the Fort McDowell Yavapai Apache Nation near Fountain Hills. The event is sponsored by the National Tribal Air Association.