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Particulate Matter-2.5 High Pollution Advisory Issued for Remainder of Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Nogales Area

PHOENIX (May 24, 2013) -- 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 the remainder of Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The HPA is being issued because of smoke impacts from a rapidly growing wildfire about 15 miles south/southeast of Nogales in the Mexican state of Sonora and several other new fire starts in the area.

ADEQ recommends that children and adults with respiratory problems avoid outdoor activities and suggests that the general public limit outdoor activity throughout the remainder of Friday and the weekend. 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/enviro/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."

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