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ADEQ to Celebrate Arizona Air Quality Awareness Week With Valley, State Stories Online that Examine Air Quality

PHOENIX (April 25, 2014) – 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 of the Sun and State of Arizona air quality.

Among the subjects to be addressed are what National Ambient Air Quality Standards are, the influences of climate, meteorology and geography on air quality, the science of inversions, the science of wildfires and the science of dust storms. The stories will be posted daily on ADEQ’s website at http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/air/air_aware.html.

“ADEQ’s mission is to protect public health and the environment,” said ADEQ Director Henry Darwin. “By understanding the science behind air pollution, the public can begin to recognize how every day activities, combined with natural influences like meteorology and geography, can impact air pollution. This enables us all to take personal actions to reduce air pollution, which 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 28-May 2 as Air Quality Awareness Week throughout the country and also has much useful information on the subject at <http://www.epa.gov/airnow/airaware>.