

Production Safety

Wildfire Smoke

Fact Sheet

How can wildfire smoke affect my health?

Smoke from wildfires can contain chemicals, gases and fine particles that may harm your health. Breathing these can cause symptoms such as difficulty breathing, coughing and wheezing. Exposure can also have deeper effects, such as worsening of asthma, bronchitis, and reduction of lung functionality.

How do I check the Air Quality Index (AQI)?

Visit the U.S governmental website <https://airnow.gov>

Management will monitor relevant wildfire events and notify employees working outdoors if the AQI for PM 2.5 is 151 or greater.

Air Quality Index (AQI) Categories for PM 2.5	Levels of Health Concern
0 to 50	Good
51 to 100	Moderate
101 to 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
151 to 200	Unhealthy
201 to 300	Very Unhealthy
301 to 500	Hazardous

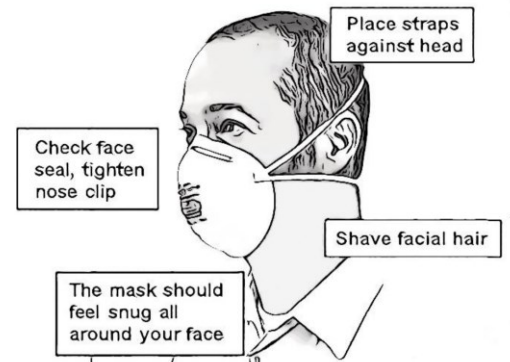
How to respond if the AQI for PM 2.5 is 151 or greater?

- Relocate or restrict job tasks to indoors or in-vehicles with a filtered HVAC system.
- Reduce work time in areas without a filtered HVAC system.
- If indoors, close all doors, windows and other openings to ensure that the HVAC system filtration system is working properly.
- If outdoor work must be completed and can't be modified, obtain an approved N95 Respirator from your supervisor or contact your Production Safety Department Representative.

N95 Respirator Use

Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Basic steps are:

- [See N95 Voluntary Use of Filter-type Respirator Guidelines \(Cal-OSHA\)](#)
- Place the mask over the nose and under the chin, with one strap placed below the ears and one strap above.
- Pinch the metal part (if there is one) of the respirator over the top of the nose so it fits securely.
- Respirators should be replaced if they get damaged, deformed, dirty, or difficult to breathe through.
- If you have symptoms such as difficulty breathing, dizziness, or nausea, go indoors or to an area with cleaner air. Take off the respirator off and inform your supervisor immediately or visit the Medical Department.



Example of proper fitting of a filtering facepiece respirator. Shaving is not required for voluntary use.