



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

Air Quality Advisory Issued for Dust Through Tonight

Due to increasing wind speeds and blowing dust arriving from the southwest, Clark County Department of Air Quality (DAQ) officials are advising residents and visitors of blowing dust **today through this evening, Wednesday, June 15.**

At this time, unhealthy levels of dust are not occurring. As part of the county's dust-control program, air quality officials have sent out a notice to construction sites in the Las Vegas Valley and other outlying areas in the County, asking them to take precautions to prevent blowing dust. Air Quality officials will continue to monitor conditions and will post an alert on the forecast page of the DAQ website if unhealthy levels actually occur. A link to the forecast page is located at <http://redrock.clarkcountynv.gov/forecast/>.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Under windy conditions, localized or valley-wide areas of blowing dust are likely to occur. Airborne dust is a form of inhalable air pollution called particulate matter, or PM, which aggravates respiratory diseases such as bronchitis and asthma. It may be best for children, the elderly, and people with respiratory diseases to stay indoors during dust storms. If you are experiencing breathing difficulties or medical conditions that you think are related to air quality, see your doctor. Detailed air quality conditions are posted in the monitoring section of the DAQ website. You can receive free air quality forecasts and advisories via e-mail or text message through Enviroflash service. Subscription information is available at www.enviroflash.org. Residents are encouraged to call Air Quality's dust-complaint hotline at (702) 385-DUST to report excessive amounts of blowing dust. Officials also recommend the following tips to keep dust down:

- Drive slowly on unpaved roads.
- Don't take short cuts across vacant lots.
- Ride off-road vehicles in approved areas outside the urban Las Vegas Valley.
- Fence off barren property or cover it with gravel, rock or desert-friendly landscaping.
- Limit outdoor exertion on windy days with dust in the air. Exercise, for example, makes you breathe heavier and increases the amount of particulates you are likely to inhale.
- Keep windows closed. Run your air conditioner inside your house and car to filter out particulates.
- Consider changing your indoor air filters if they are dirty.

Clark County is a dynamic and innovative organization dedicated to providing top-quality service with integrity, respect and accountability. With jurisdiction over the world-famous Las Vegas Strip and covering an area the size of New Jersey, Clark is the nation's 13th-largest county and provides extensive regional services to more than 2.1 million citizens and 45 million visitors a year. Included are the nation's 9th-busiest airport, air quality compliance, social services and the state's largest public hospital, University Medical Center. The County also provides municipal services that are traditionally provided by cities to about 954,000 residents in the unincorporated area. Those include fire protection, roads and other public works, parks and recreation, and planning and development.

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