



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Thursday, December 29, 2011

Air Quality Advisory Issued For Smoke Due to New Year's Eve Fireworks

Clark County Department of Air Quality and Environmental Management (DAQEM) is issuing an advisory that will be in effect from **Saturday, Dec. 31 through Sunday, Jan. 1** for potentially elevated levels of smoke over the New Year's holiday due to local fireworks. Cold weather combined with calm air and a temperature inversion may cause smoke and dust to remain at a low elevation, increasing the concentration of air pollution. Air Quality officials say smoke is made of small particles and other pollutants that can aggravate respiratory diseases.

At this time, unhealthy levels of air pollution are not occurring. Air Quality officials will continue to monitor conditions and will post an alert on the forecast page of the DAQEM website if unhealthy levels actually occur. A link to the forecast page is located at <http://redrock.co.clark.nv.us/forecast/>. Detailed air quality conditions are posted in the monitoring section of the DAQEM website at www.ClarkCountyNV.gov. 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.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT DUST & SMOKE:

Airborne smoke and dust are forms 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 under smoky conditions. Other suggestions include:

- Limit outdoor exertion.
- Keep windows closed.
- Use your prescription allergy medication or over-the-counter hay fever or sinus medications if you experience symptoms of itchy eyes, a runny nose, or congestion.

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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 14th-largest county and provides extensive regional services to more than 2 million citizens and 40 million visitors a year. Included are the nation's 7th-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 almost 900,000 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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The Clark County Commission

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