



News Release

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For Immediate Release

Monday April 15, 2013

Air Quality Alert Issued For Dust Today Through This Evening

Due to extremely high winds across the western Mojave Desert, last night, suspended dust has worked its way into Clark County this morning. That combined with expected high winds, Clark County Department of Air Quality (DAQ) Officials are advising residents and operators of local construction sites of an increase of blowing dust in Clark County for the remainder of the day.

At this time, unhealthy levels of dust are occurring in Boulder City and are imminent in other parts of Clark County including the Las Vegas Valley. As part of the county's dust-control program, air quality officials have sent notices 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 update on the forecast page of the DAQ website if unhealthy levels cease. 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. 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 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

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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 12th-largest county and provides extensive regional services to more than 2 million citizens and 42 million visitors a year. Included are the nation's 8th-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.

Clark County news releases can be found at www.ClarkCountyNV.gov.

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