



**ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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**HEALTH UPDATE
Improving Air Quality
November 21, 2018**

Situation:

The Bay Area is continuing to experience smoke from the Camp Fire in Butte County, but air quality is improving through much of the region. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has extended its Spare the Air alert through Wednesday, November 21st, due to some pockets of “unhealthy” air quality remaining in the East Bay, but improvements to moderate air quality are anticipated throughout the region on Thursday, 11/22nd.

While air quality is in the “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” level:

This means that the general public is not likely to be affected but that persons with heart and lung disease, older adults, and children are at greater risk from the continued presence of particles in the air.

While air quality is in the “Moderate” level:

This means that air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.

To monitor local air quality conditions and indicators to stay indoors, visit Bay Area Air Quality Management District website: <http://www.baaqmd.gov> For additional health guidance during times of poor air quality, see the Alameda County Public Health Wildfire Resources page at <http://www.acphd.org/wildfire-smoke.aspx>.

Summary of Resources:

- Baaqmd.gov - For current bay area air quality forecasts
- AirNow.gov – Monitor local air quality conditions and indicators to stay indoors
- [Air Quality and Outdoor Activity Guidance for Schools](http://AirQualityandOutdoorActivityGuidanceforSchools)
- ACPHD.org/wildfire-smoke.aspx - ACPHD Wildfire Resources Page
- ACPHD.org/Health-Alerts.aspx - ACPHD Health Alerts page
- [CDPH Wildfire Fact Sheets](http://CDPHWildfireFactSheets) – California Department of Public Health Wildfire Resources Page

Health ALERT: conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health ADVISORY: provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.

Health UPDATE: provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.