



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
[08/03/2021]

## **AIR QUALITY ADVISORY — CODE ORANGE FOR PARTICULATE MATTER**

**A PARTICULATE MATTER ACTION ADVISORY HAS BEEN DECLARED FOR AUG. 3, 2021** because the particulate matter (also called particle pollution) forecast is orange, which means that outdoor activities may be unhealthy for individuals in sensitive groups. Particulate Matter concentrations for Wednesday, Aug. 4, are also forecasted to be at or near the Code Orange level as smoke from the western wildfires continues to circulate through our area. Arkansas counties affected are **BENTON COUNTY, MADISON COUNTY, AND WASHINGTON COUNTY**. Health precautions include limiting prolonged outdoor exertion among active children and adults, and people with preexisting respiratory disease.

In cooperation with the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality has issued a **“CODE ORANGE” AIR QUALITY ADVISORY FOR PARTICULATE MATTER**, because of projected monitored concentrations above 35 micrograms per cubic meter as a result of western United States wildfires.

**ON PARTICULATE MATTER ACTION DAYS**, public agencies, private business, and the general public should take voluntary actions to reduce airborne particulate matter, including dust, dirt, soot, and smoke, to minimize particulate matter-related health risks.

### **Health Precautions For Active Children and Adults and For Persons With Respiratory Difficulties:**

- Limit prolonged outdoor exertion
- High particulate matter levels can cause lung irritation during outdoor exertion.
- High particulate matter levels can aggravate existing conditions and lead to increased potential for illness among people with preexisting respiratory conditions.

**To check the daily particulate matter and ozone forecast**, go to [adeq.state.ar.us](http://adeq.state.ar.us). **To see daily particulate matter and ozone levels maps**, go to [airnow.gov](http://airnow.gov).