

Emergency Management Department

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STATION FIRE, HAZARDOUS AIR QUALITY, HOT TEMPERATURES AND FIRE WEATHER FORECAST BULLETIN #5 – 1900 hours

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Information is also available at:

- UpdateLA: (<http://www.updatela.com/>)
- ReadyLA: (<http://www.readyla.org/>)
- Twitter: (<http://twitter.com/readyla>)
- Facebook: (<http://www.facebook.com/readyla>)
- TTY/TDD: 3-1-1 or (213) 473-3221 or toll-free (866) 452-2489
- L.A. City Emergency Information Hotline: (800) 439-2909

Other Important Phone Numbers:

- L.A. County Department of Mental Health ACCESS Center - 1-800 854-7771
- American Red Cross - (888) 737-4306

About the Emergency Management Department (EMD)

The Emergency Management Department was established by ordinance in 2000 by the City Council and Mayor. EMD is dedicated to leading the City in comprehensive emergency management including: planning, mitigation, preparation, response to and recovery from natural, manmade and accidental incidents of high consequence.



ALERT LA COUNTY – MASS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Los Angeles County has implemented an emergency mass notification system called Alert LA County that is used to contact County residents and business in case of emergency. Listed and unlisted land line telephone numbers are already included in the database and do not need to be registered. However residents can register their cell phone number, Voice over IP phone number, and e-mail address to receive recorded phone messages, text messages or e-mail messages at <http://www.alert.lacounty.gov>.

POWER ADVISORY

Southern California Edison urges its customers in the Santa Clarita, Lancaster and Palmdale areas to conserve energy due to transmission lines that have been damaged by the Station Fire. Edison officials asked customers to turn off and unplug any unnecessary electrical equipment, especially sensitive electronics.

Customers are advised to keep flashlights handy in case a service interruption occurs, not to use candles for lighting because they could pose a fire hazard, and not to cook indoors with charcoal or other fossil fuels not meant for indoor use because they could turn deadly.

If a power outage occurs, one light switch should be left in the on position to serve as a signal when service has been restored.

As of 8:00am, DWP reports no power supply problems and 83 customers with outages. All of the DWP water tanks and reservoirs in the area of the fire remain full and pumping stations in normal operating mode. There is no major power or water supply issue.

California Independent System Operator (ISO) has not issued an alerts, warning and emergency notices regarding excessive service demands statewide.

STATION FIRE UPDATE AS OF 1700 HOURS

The Station Fire has grown to 127,513 acres and is now 22 percent contained. At least 62 homes, cabins, and other structures have been destroyed, mainly in the Tujunga Canyon and Acton areas. Some media sources are reporting as many as 74 structures have been destroyed. Approximately 10,000 homes, commercial properties, and other structures remain threatened. Governor Schwarzenegger declared a State of Emergency for Los Angeles County in order to allocate additional resources to the Station Fire. Two firefighters were killed while fighting the fire on Sunday afternoon and three civilians were burned by flames on Monday.

At approximately 1330hrs L.A. County began a back fire operation at the top of Haynes Canyon just above the Los Angeles City Limits limit. Back firing operations have also been put in place above Riverwood Ranch area and above Blanchard Cnyn.

As a result of re-evaluation of the area following today's fire control operations, residents being allowed to return to some areas may see firefighting apparatus in their neighborhood, this is precautionary only. Although, with any fire, the situation is dynamic and residents should follow any directions by public safety officials.

Evacuation orders have been lifted in La Crescenta along Ocean View Blvd, north of La Canada Drive, and from Briggs Avenue to Pennsylvania Ave, north of Orange Ave.

EVACUATION AREAS INSIDE THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

- Tujunga: Northwest of Day at Blue Gum Canyon Rd, to Glory Ave to westbound Apperson St to northbound Fairgrove Ave to westbound Summitrose St to northbound Pinyon Ave to westbound Hillrose St to northbound Seven Hills Dr to Lonzo St.
- 300 homes in Tujunga/Sunland bounded by Apperson St in the west, Sevenhills Dr in the North and Glory Ave in the South and East.

EVACUATION AREAS OUTSIDE THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Multiple mandatory evacuation orders remain in effect for the following areas:

- Residences La Canada Flintridge east of Jenssen Drive, northeast of Los Amigos Street, east of Castle Road and east of Ocean View Road.
- Briggs Avenue north of Rockdale.
- West of Arroyo Seco to Palm Drive north of Olive Lane.
- Residences in Altadena north of Loma Alta between between Lake and Canyon Del Drive.
- Residences in Acton south of Soledad Canyon Road from Highway 14 to Crown Valley Road, and residences on Alison Canyon Road from Angeles Forest Highway to Soledad Canyon Road.

Juniper Hills: All homes North of Juniper Hills Rd, between Emma Rd, Fort Tejon Rd, and Longview Rd.

La Crescenta: All residents living North of Rockdell St and Faircrest Dr, and between Rosemont Ave and the foothills.

Altadena: Evacuation orders have been lifted for the areas north of W. Loma Alta Dr between Aralia Rd and Fair Oaks Ave. Residents living on Prieto Fire Rd and Millard Canyon north of Risinghill Rd remain under mandatory evacuation orders. Chaney Trail and Alzada Dr North of Jaxine Dr.

Glendale: A mandatory evacuation has been issued for Markridge St between Lowell St and Pennsylvania Ave and all residences north to the foothills. A voluntary evacuation has been issued for North of Santa Carlotta Ave between Lowell St and Pennsylvania Ave

The following roads have been closed due to the Station Fire:

- Soledad Canyon Road at Crown Valley Road
- Soledad Canyon Road at SR-14
- Agua Dulce Canyon Road at SR-14
- Escondido Canyon Road at SR-14
- Red Rover Mine Road at SR-14
- Red Rover Mine Road at Escondido Road
- Placerita at Sand Canyon Road
- Big Pines Highway at SR-2
- Aliso Canyon at Soledad Canyon Road
- Aliso Canyon at Avenue Y-8
- Angeles Forest Highway at Mount Emma Road
- Sierra Highway at SR-14
- Sierra Highway at Vasquez Canyon Road
- Little Tujunga Road at the ranger station
- SR-2 from La Canada Flintridge north
- Big Tujunga Canyon Road at Mt. Gleason Avenue

Lake Blvd to JPL and south of Cheyney Trail is open to residents only.

AMERICAN RED CROSS SHELTERS

- Golden Valley High School (27051 Robert C. Lee Pkwy – Santa Clarita, 91350)
- Marie Kerr Park Recreational Center (2723 A Rancho Vista Blvd., Palmdale 93550)
- La Canada High School (4463 Oak Grove Dr., La Canada Flintridge, 91011-3797)
- La Crescenta Valley High School (2900 Community Ave., La Crescenta, 91214)
- Verdugo Hills High School (10625 Plainview Avenue, Tujunga, 91042)

PET EVACUATION CENTERS (LARGE AND SMALL ANIMALS)

- Pierce College 6201 Winnetka Ave., Woodland Hills (boarding horses/big animals)
- La Canada High School 4463 Oak Grove, La Canada (small animals)
- Pasadena Humane Society 361 S. Raymond, Pasadena
- Loma Alta County Park at Lincoln and Loma Alta, Altadena
- Humane Society 401 N. Verdugo, Glendale
- East Valley Shelter (For Tujunga Residents) 14409 Vanowen St., Van Nuys 91405 – 888-4LAPET1 or 888-452-7381
- Baldwin Park Shelter (For Altadena Residents) 4275 N. Elton St., Baldwin Park 626-962-3577
- Lancaster Animal Shelter 5210 W. Ave. I, Lancaster, CA 93536, (661) 940-4191

SCHOOL CLOSURES

The Los Angeles County Office of Education is sending the following summary information available at this time regarding Station Fire-related school district closures in the county for Tuesday, September 01, 2009:

- Acton-Agua Dulce Unified School District-All Schools Closed
- Burbank Unified School District-All Schools Open
- Glendale Unified School District-All Schools Closed
- La Canada Unified School District-All Schools Closed
- Los Angeles Unified School District-Schools in the impacted area are not in session until Sept. 9.
- Pasadena Unified School District-Schools not in Session until September 10.

ROAD CLOSURES

- Angeles Crest Highway
- Tujunga Canyon Road
- Big Tujunga Canyon Roads;
- Highway 14 - off and on ramps that have been closed are: Soledad Canyon in Canyon Country, Agua Dulce Canyon Road, Escondido Canyon, Red Rover Mine Road and Crown Valley Road.



HAZARDOUS AIR QUALITY - LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

***Questions about this air quality alert can be directed to (213) 240-8144. ***

Due to several fires burning in Southern California, air quality continues to be adversely affected in several parts of Los Angeles County. According to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), smoke from the Station Fire near La Cañada has caused hazardous air quality in the San Gabriel Mountains and the West San Gabriel Valley. Areas of direct smoke impact include Altadena, La Cañada, Flintridge, La Crescenta, Tujunga, and Sunland. The Los Angeles County Health Officer, Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, urges all individuals in these areas, or areas where there is visible smoke or the odor of smoke, to avoid unnecessary outdoor **and indoor** physical exertion, such as exercise.

"In all areas of visible smoke or where there is an odor of smoke, all individuals are urged to be cautious and to avoid unnecessary outdoor activities. We are also advising schools that are in session in smoke-impacted areas to suspend outside physical activities in these areas, including physical education and after-school sports, until conditions improve," said Jonathan E. Fielding, MD, MPH, Director of Public Health and County Health Officer.

Additional areas that may be impacted by smoke include: the Santa Clarita Valley, San Fernando Valley, Central Los Angeles County, and East San Gabriel Valley.

Non-school related sports organizations, such as Little Leagues, for children and adults are advised to cancel outdoor practices in areas where there is visible smoke, soot, or ash, or where there is an odor of smoke. This also applies to other recreational outdoor activity, such as hikes or picnics, in these areas.

The following is recommended for pets:

- Avoid leaving your pets outdoors, particularly at night. Pets should be brought into an indoor location, such as an enclosed garage or a house.
- If dogs or cats appear to be in respiratory distress, they should be taken to an animal hospital immediately. Symptoms of respiratory distress for dogs include panting and/or an inability to catch their breath. Symptoms for cats are less noticeable, but may include panting and/or an inability to catch their breath.

For more information on health advisories and other public health information can be found at <http://www.lapublichealth.org/>

HEALTH ADVISORY: PRACTICE SAFE CLEAN-UP AFTER FIRE

The Los Angeles County Health Officer, Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, advises people to take precautions during clean-up following a fire. Ash, soot, dust, and other airborne particles may have been deposited inside and outside of homes and businesses. While ash from wildfires is relatively non-toxic and similar to ash that may be found in a home fireplace, it may be irritating to the skin, nose and throat. Exposure to ash in air might trigger asthmatic attacks in people who already have asthma.

Ash Clean-up:

- Do not allow children to play in ash, especially in wet or damp ash.
- Wash toys before children play with them.
- Bathe pets to rid them of ash.
- During clean-up, wear gloves such as household dish washing gloves, long sleeved shirts and long pants to avoid skin contact. If you do get ash on your skin, wash it off as soon as possible.
- If you have a vegetable garden or fruit trees, wash the fruit or vegetables thoroughly before eating them.
- Avoid getting ash into the air as much as possible. Do not use leaf blowers or take other actions that will put ash into the air. Instead, gentle sweeping of indoor and outdoor surfaces, followed by wet mopping, is the best way to clean an area with ash. A solution of bleach and water may be used to disinfect an area, if desired.
- Shop vacuums and regular household vacuum cleaners do not filter out small particles, but instead blow such particles into the air where they can be breathed. Use of regular vacuums is not advised however HEPA-filter vacuums could be used.
- A dust mask, such as a surgical mask or a mask rated N-95, may be worn during clean-up to avoid breathing in ash and other airborne particles.
- Avoid washing ash into storm drains whenever possible. Use as little water as possible when cleaning an area of ash.
- Collected ash may be disposed of in the regular trash by placing it in a plastic trash bag first.
- If a job appears to be too big, hire a professional cleaning service. There are several businesses in LA County that specialize in post-fire clean-up that may be found in the phone book. Please contact a professional if there is substantial damage or destruction to a structure.









Food Safety:

Some homeowners may find that their kitchens have ash, soot, dust, and other airborne particles. The following is advised to maintain food safety:

- Plastic bottles of liquid, such as water, that have been covered with ash should be discarded. It is not enough to rinse off the bottle as these particles contaminate the caps, making them very difficult to decontaminate.
- Food that has not been stored in waterproof or airtight containers and has been covered with ash should be discarded. This includes products that have been stored in cardboard or other soft packaging.
- Food stored in sealed, previously unopened glass or metal cans or jars, such as baby food, should be safe for use. Clean before opening and transfer the contents to another container before eating.
- For those that have experienced power outages, it is best to throw away perishable food, such as meat, dairy products and eggs. Items that have defrosted in the freezer during a power outage should also be discarded.

WEATHER

Tonight's weather is far more favorable, relative humidity will be as high as 30%'s and 40%'s in areas. Winds will be under 10mph out of the South/Southwest early on changing to off shore as normal, still low winds.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY – SEPTEMBER 2, 2009					
6 am	9 am	12 pm	3 pm	6 pm	9 pm
 69°F	 77°F	 92°F	 95°F	 88°F	 78°F
Feels Like 69°F	Feels Like 78°F	Feels Like 90°F	Feels Like 93°F	Feels Like 86°F	Feels Like 78°F
Day			Night		
 Sunny High 97°F Precip 0%			 Clear Overnight Low 68°F Precip 0%		
Wind: From WSW at 10 mph Max. Humidity: 32%			Wind: From S at 7 mph Max. Humidity: 48%		

There is an increased risk of heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke during periods of excessive heat. Firefighters, police officers and City employees who work outdoors should hydrate prior to and during their assigned shifts. Children and the elderly are particularly vulnerable during hot weather. City employees should evaluate all situations where children and the elderly may be exposed to excessive heat and call 9-1-1 when appropriate.

Because of the increasing humidity and heat index the City will remain in Phase 1 of the Extreme Heat and Cold Annex. The Annex can be found at:

http://insidela.ci.la.ca.us/eoo/eoosubcommpttf/eoointraeoosubcommpttf236860629_06022009.pdf

Libraries, Senior Centers and Recreation and Parks facilities are available to provide relief from the heat. Information on locations and hours of operations are available at:

- Libraries – Call (213) 228-7000 or <http://www.lapl.org/branches/>.
- Senior Centers - <http://www.lacity.org/RAP/dos/senior/senior.htm>
- Recreation and Parks Facilities - www.laparks.org

A list of cooling centers operated by Los Angeles County can be found at

<http://css.lacounty.gov/docs/July%202009%20Community%20Cooling%20Centers.pdf>