



CITY of LOS ANGELES
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT
DEPARTMENT
"IN OMNIA PARATUS"

EMD BULLETIN

Emergency Management Department

James Featherstone, General Manager

200 North Spring Street, Room 1533, Los Angeles, CA 90012 ♦ Telephone: 213-978-2222

TTY: 213-473-6296 ♦ Web <http://www.lacity.org/emd/>

DATE: August 31, 2009
TO: All Members of the Emergency Management Committee
FROM: James G. Featherstone, General Manager
SUBJECT: STATION FIRE, HAZARDOUS AIR QUALITY, HOT TEMPERATURES AND FIRE WEATHER FORECAST BULLETIN #1

This bulletin contains information and updates on the following items:

- **Station Fire**
- **Hazardous Air Quality Advisory**
- **Hot Temperatures**

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>)

The EMD Duty Officer can be contacted at:

- 213-484-4831 (landline)
- 213-200-6414 (cell phone)
- emddutyofficer@lacity.org

STATION FIRE UPDATE AS OF 0600

Firefighters continue to battle the 85,760-acre Station Fire, which remains approximately five-percent contained. Approximately 18 homes have been destroyed. Thirty cabins have also been destroyed. Approximately 10,000 homes, 500 commercial properties, and 2,000 other structures are threatened at this time. The fire is currently climbing Mount Wilson, and has now progressed to within a half-mile of broadcast towers for Los Angeles television and radio stations. If the fire destroys the towers, local television and radio outages are likely. There are a total of 2,575 personnel assigned to the fire at this time. Estimated cost to date: \$7,671,000.

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.

Projected movement:

- South towards La Canada, La Crescenta, Pasadena, Glendale
- West towards toward Yerba Buena Ridge
- North towards the 14 Freeway
- East towards Mt. Wilson

Two firefighters were killed while fighting the fire Sunday afternoon.

New evacuation orders have been issued for:

- 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 to Pennsylvania north of Harmony Place
- 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 High way 14 to Crown Valley Road, and residences on Alison Canyon Road from Angeles Forest Highway to Soledad Canyon Road

This area includes portions of the following zip codes: 91001, 91011, 91042, 91214 and 93510

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

- Big Tujunga Canyon between County Camp #15 and the Ranger Station as well as Camp Colby which is located at 23828 Angeles Crest Highway
- East of Ocean View Blvd, north to High Rim Rd and south to Fairhurst Drive
- North of Vista de Valle, east to Crest Drive, and everything north
- El Prieto Road south to W. Loma Alta, east to Monterosa Drive and west to Aralia Rd
- Starlight Crest Drive North to Green Ridge Court, including Forest Green Drive
- Big Briar Way at Haskel, and Donna Maria Lane, Indian Drive, Hacienda Drive, Alta Canada Road, north of Linda Vista, and La Canada Blvd, north of El Vago Street
- Canyon Ridge To Aralia Road, north of Loma Alta
- Little Tujunga from Gold Creek to Osborne
- Briggs Avenue to north of Sheild Street between Goss Canyon and Canyon Side Road
- All residences north of Loma Alta Drive between Lake Avenue and Canyon Crest above the Jet Propulsion Laboratory including Camp Chiquita
- Residences on Riverwood Drive near Big Tujunga Canyon Road
- Alpine Village east of Big Tujunga Canyon Road
- Soledad Canyon from Agua Dulce through Indian Truck Trl

This area includes portions of the following zip codes: 91001, 91011, 91040, 91024, 91214 and 91042

The mandatory evacuation order has been lifted for residences on Vista Del Valle Road, west of Angeles Crest. Evacuation orders have also been lifted for areas north of Santa Carlotta Street between Pennsylvania and Lowell Avenues in Glendale.



Evacuation centers have been established at La Canada High School, 4463 Oak Grove Drive, La Canada; Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Rd., Glendale; and Crescenta Valley High School, 2900 Community Ave., La Crescenta.

Poor air quality is rapidly becoming a concern due to falling ash and potentially toxic smoke from burned materials. Three injuries have been reported.

Approximately 800 customers in the La Canada Flintridge area are without power due to burned and damaged power poles and lines. The fire is expected to be fully contained on September 8.

HAZARDOUS AIR QUALITY ADVISORY
FROM THE 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.

Throughout Los Angeles County, sensitive individuals, such as those with heart disease, asthma or other respiratory disease, should follow these recommendations and stay indoors as much as possible even in areas where smoke, soot, or ash cannot be seen or there is no odor of smoke.

"It is difficult to tell where ash or soot from a wildfire will go, or how winds will affect the level of dust particles in the air, so we ask all individuals to be aware of their immediate environment and how it might affect their health," said Dr. Fielding.

People can participate in indoor sports or other strenuous activity in areas with visible smoke, soot, or ash, provided the indoor location has air conditioning that does not draw air from the outside and it has closed windows and doors to protect the cleanliness of indoor air. If not, it is recommended that all individuals follow these guidelines as if they were outside.

The following recommendations will help you protect yourself and your family from harmful effects of bad air quality:

- If you see or smell smoke, or see a lot of particles and ash in the air, avoid unnecessary outdoor activity to limit your exposure to harmful air. This is especially important for those with heart or lung disease (including asthma), the elderly and children.
- If outdoor air is bad, try to keep indoor air as clean as possible by keeping windows and doors closed. Air conditioners that re-circulate air within the home can help filter out harmful particles.
- Avoid using air conditioning units that only draw in air from the outside or that do not have a re-circulating option. Residents should check the filters on their air conditioners and replace them regularly. Indoor air filtration devices with HEPA filters can further reduce the level of particles that circulate indoors.
- If it is too hot during the day to keep the doors or windows closed and you do not have an air conditioning unit that re-circulates indoor air, consider going to an air conditioned public place, such as a library or shopping center, to stay cool and to protect yourself from harmful air.
- Do not use fireplaces (either wood burning or gas), candles, and vacuums. Use damp cloths to clean dusty indoor surfaces. Do not smoke.
- If you have symptoms of lung or heart disease that may be related to smoke exposure, including severe coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea or unusual fatigue or lightheadedness, contact your doctor immediately or go to an urgent care center.
- When smoke is heavy for a prolonged period of time, fine particles can build up indoors even though you may not be able to see them. Wearing a mask may prevent exposures to large particles. However, most masks do not prevent exposure to fine particles and toxic gases, which may be more dangerous to your health.

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







HOT TEMPERATURES

An upper level high pressure has weakened its grip on the weather and begun to shift east. This will result in cooler temperatures along the coast with good afternoon sea breezes. This will be most pronounced along the central coast where temperatures will be as much as 30 degrees cooler today. Inland valleys and all mountain locations will continue with hot and dry conditions today which will extend into the upcoming week. High temperatures in the warmest locations including the valleys...foothills...lower mountain elevations will reach the century mark. The air mass will continue very dry which will keep heat index readings from reaching excessive heat warning levels.

DWP reported no power supply problems in the City over the weekend and the California Independent System Operator has not issued an alerts, warning and emergency notices regarding excessive service demands statewide.

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

Hourly Forecast for August 31, 2009

9 am	12 pm	3 pm	6 pm	9 pm	12 am
 80°F	 92°F	 95°F	 88°F	 76°F	 73°F
Feels Like 79°F	Feels Like 89°F	Feels Like 92°F	Feels Like 86°F	Feels Like 77°F	Feels Like 73°F

Today


Tonight



Sunny

High
97°F

Precip
0%



Clear

Overnight Low
66°F

Precip
0%

Wind: **From SSW at 10 mph**
Max. Humidity: **26%**
UV Index: **9 Very High**

Wind: **From S at 7 mph**
Max. Humidity: **48%**

Sunrise: **6:26 AM PT**
Avg. High: **89°F**
Record High: **106°F (1967)**

Sunset: **7:21 PM PT**
Avg. Low: **62°F**
Record Low: **49°F (1941)**

Last Updated Monday, Aug 31, 8:21 AM Pacific Daylight Time

The City remains in Phase 1 of the Extreme Heat and Cold Annex. The Annex can be found at:
http://insidela.ci.la.ca.us/eoo/eoosubcommpttf/eointraeoosubcommpttf236860629_06022009.pdf

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.

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 L.A. County can be found at
<http://css.lacounty.gov/docs/July%202009%20Community%20Cooling%20Centers.pdf>