



Outdoor Air Quality

Did you know?

Air pollution has many sources including traffic, factories, and power plants. Climate change is causing more wildfires. Polluted air can cause health effects, especially in people with asthma, lung disease, or heart disease.

Action Plan

- Check your local air quality report. The Air Quality Index (AQI) provides information on air quality and actions you can take to protect your health (for example, limiting outdoor activity if the air quality is bad): airnow.gov.
- Be alert when there are wildfires – smoke from far away can travel thousands of miles.
- If possible, plan outdoor activities away from major air pollution sources like the highway.
- Help reduce air pollution in your neighborhood: take public transportation, walk or bike when possible, and don't idle your vehicle.

[more](#) →



Resources

To learn more about outdoor air quality, visit [cdc.gov/air](https://www.cdc.gov/air)

Visit [airnow.gov](https://www.airnow.gov) (or download the AirNow app) to find the Air Quality Index, a color-coded scale that shows how clean or polluted the air is:



For any AQI other than “Good”, AirNow will provide guidance on how to take action to protect health (especially for sensitive groups, like infants, children with asthma, pregnant people, and older adults).

USG = Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

Ask your child’s school to use the “Air Quality Flag Program.” For more information, visit [airnow.gov](https://www.airnow.gov) and scroll down to select “Flag Program.”

For more information, visit: [nyscheck.org/rxs](https://www.nyscheck.org/rxs)



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[NYSCHECK.ORG](https://www.nyscheck.org)

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