



AIR QUALITY FORECASTING

MWAQC Meeting, April 27, 2011

Air Quality Forecasting

- Forecasts developed for ozone and particles
- Issued out to 3 days
- Consensus forecasts – MWCOCG, MD Department of Environment, and VA Department of Environmental Quality

Air Quality Index and Action Guide

- Forecasts are based on the AQI
- National index to communicate air quality levels
- Informs the public on health issues and air quality forecasts
- Includes voluntary actions to reduce air pollution



**AIR QUALITY
ACTION GUIDE**
Your "how to" guide
for cleaner air

Air Quality Rating	Steps to Protect Your Health and Our Environment
GOOD 0-50	Enjoy the great outdoors. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rather than drive - bike or walk when possible.- Conserve energy. Replace incandescent bulbs with CFLs.- Plant a tree to improve health and air quality.
MODERATE 51-100	Some pollution. Even moderate levels pose risks to highly sensitive groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bundle errands. Eliminate unnecessary trips.- Check AirAlerts to see if tomorrow's forecast is unhealthy.- Perform regular maintenance on your car.
UNHEALTHY For Sensitive Groups 101-150	Pollution levels are harmful to children, older adults and anyone with a respiratory or heart condition. Limit physical outdoor activity. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Don't drive alone. Carpool, take public transit.- Refuel your car in the evening.- Put off lawn care until air quality improves.- Use a gas or electric grill instead of charcoal.
UNHEALTHY 151-200	Everyone should limit strenuous outdoor activity when the air is unhealthy to breathe. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Telework and take public transit.- Turn off lights and electronics when not in use.- Avoid lawn mowing or use an electric mower.- Sign up for health alerts at cleanairpartners.net.- Don't use chemicals on your lawn and garden.
VERY UNHEALTHY 201-300	Pollution levels are very unhealthy for everyone. Avoid any physical outdoor activity. <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Follow all of the action steps above.

Do Your Share for Cleaner Air.

Visit Cleanairpartners.net to get your daily AirAlerts and discover additional steps you can take each day to improve our region's air quality, protect your health, and reduce the risks of climate change.

Where to Find the Air Quality Forecast

- **MWCOG Website:**
www.mwcog.org/environment/air/forecast
- **MWCOG Hotline:**
202-962-3299
- **Clean Air Partners AirAlerts and Website:**
www.cleanairpartners.net
- **Clean Air Partners Twitter and Facebook Pages:**
www.twitter.com/cleanairpartner
www.facebook.com/cleanairpartners

AirAlerts

- Available for 4 regions
- Forecasts: daily and unhealthy
- Real-Time Health Notifications: code orange and red
- Includes health messages and tips

From: Clean Air Partners [mailto:airalerts@cleanairpartners.net]
Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2010 3:23 PM
To: Jennifer Desimone
Subject: AirAlert: Unhealthy Air (Code Orange) Forecasted for Thursday, September 02, 2010



Contact Us: Metropolitan Washington Area (202) 962-3360 Metropolitan Baltimore Area (410) 732-9575

Your Daily Air Quality Forecast

Thursday, September 2

Metropolitan Washington	Unhealthy <small>for Sensitive Groups</small>	Code Orange:	Pollution levels harmful to children and anyone with breathing or heart conditions
Metropolitan Baltimore	Unhealthy <small>for Sensitive Groups</small>	Code Orange:	Pollution levels harmful to children and anyone with breathing or heart conditions
Western Maryland	Moderate	Code Yellow:	Some pollution - poses risks to highly sensitive
Eastern Shore	Moderate	Code Yellow:	Some pollution - poses risks to highly sensitive

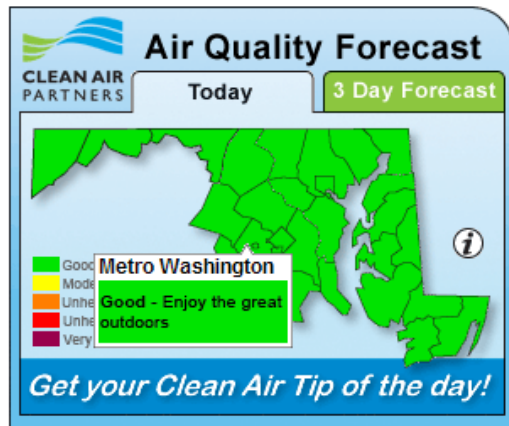
Extended Three-Day Forecast

Air Quality Action Tips

Green	Good	If you are considering purchasing new appliances and products for the home, look for the ENERGY STAR which use less energy and can save you money.
Yellow	Moderate	Use a hybrid or fuel-efficient car.
Orange	Unhealthy For Sensitive Groups	Put off lawn care for a day or two until the air is healthier.
Red	Unhealthy	Check the AirAlert for your extended forecast to see if tomorrow's air quality is going to be unhealthy.
Purple	Very Unhealthy	Postpone outings on gasoline or diesel-powered recreational boats because they are high pollution sources.

Free Web Tools

Forecast Widget:



AirAlerts Button:

