



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Air Quality Warning Still in Effect for Southern Santa Barbara County
Sherpa Fire Smoke and Falling Ash**

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — Today, the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District re-issued an Air Quality Warning for the southern areas of Santa Barbara County. The warning will remain in effect until conditions improve.

Although winds have dispersed some of the smoke, keeping overall air quality better than expected, there can be still pockets of poor air quality. The Sherpa Fire is not yet fully contained and smoke may continue to impact local air quality. Levels of smoke and particles, and areas impacted, will vary. In addition, ash is falling over much of southern Santa Barbara County, and may be blown into the air as winds come up. Residents are urged to avoid using leaf blowers or doing any activities that will stir ash and particles up into the air.

If you see or smell smoke in the air, be cautious and use common sense to protect your and your family's health. Everyone, especially people with heart or lung disease (including asthma), older adults, and children, should limit time spent outdoors and avoid outdoor exercise when high concentrations of smoke and particles are in the air.

If you have symptoms that may be related to exposure to smoke and soot, contact your health care provider. Symptoms include repeated coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, and nausea or unusual fatigue or lightheadedness.

During hot weather, use your best judgment when it comes to keeping your home cool when there is smoke in your area. Keep windows and doors closed unless it is extremely hot. If you have an air conditioner, run it with the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean. If you have a whole house fan, turn it off unless it is extremely hot. If smoke is not present where you live, take the opportunity to air out your home.

For more information on smoke and our health, visit our www.OurAir.org and check [www.twitter.com/OurAirAdvisory](https://twitter.com/OurAirAdvisory). For recorded advisory updates, call (805) 961-8802.

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