



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Air Quality Watch Upgraded to Warning for Santa Barbara County Smoke from Canyon Fire Affecting Air Quality**

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — Today, the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District changed the Air Quality Watch in effect for the county to an Air Quality Warning for Santa Barbara County, urging residents to use extra caution to protect their health.

Smoke from the Canyon Fire on Vandenberg Air Force Base is currently causing air quality to be unhealthy for sensitive groups in Lompoc. Everyone in that area should limit prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors, and people with heart or lung disease, children, and older adults should limit time outdoors and be especially careful. Other areas of Santa Barbara County are currently experiencing somewhat elevated levels of particles. Because winds and weather conditions can change, air quality in a range of areas of the county may be affected by the fire. Communities may also experience falling ash.

If high concentrations of smoke and ash are present, use common sense to protect your and your family's health by limiting time spent outdoors and avoiding outdoor exercise. If you see falling ash, avoid activities, such as using leaf blowers, that will stir particles into the air.

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

Check [www.twitter.com/OurAirAdvisory](http://www.twitter.com/OurAirAdvisory) for updates. For recorded advisory updates, call (805) 961-8802. For more information, visit [www.OurAir.org](http://www.OurAir.org).

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