FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 9, 2018

UPDATED JOINT AIR QUALITY ADVISORY ISSUED BY THE
BUTTE COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT and
BUTTE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

To:
Public Safety Personnel
News Media
Adjacent Air Quality Management Districts
Butte County & City Managers
Local/State Law & Fire Federal
School Officials
Sac. Valley Air Basin Coordinating Council
County Health Officer
California Air Resources Board
Environmental Protection Agency

From: W. James Wagoner, Air Pollution Control Officer
Dr. Andy Miller, MD, Health Officer

The Butte County Air Quality Management District Air Pollution Control Officer and the Butte County Public Health Officer are issuing this updated Air Quality Advisory to notify the public of continuing poor air quality conditions in Butte County due to smoke from the Carr Fire in Shasta County and the Mendocino Complex in Mendocino and Lake Counties. Widespread smoke impacts are expected to continue into the weekend. With current fire activity, the Air Quality Index (AQI) is expected to range from Moderate to Unhealthy with the majority of time in the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups range. The location and severity of smoke impacts will vary throughout the day depending on wind direction, fire intensity, and temperature inversions.

The major air pollutant of concern is fine particulate matter also known as PM2.5. While all persons may experience varying degrees of symptoms, the more sensitive individuals, such as the young, the elderly, pregnant women, smokers, and those with respiratory conditions are of greatest risk for experiencing more aggravated symptoms which may include, but are not limited to coughing, watery and itchy eyes, and difficulty in breathing.

Persons experiencing questionable or severe symptoms should seek professional medical advice and treatment. The following actions are recommended as needed in areas impacted by smoke:

- Limit outdoor exertion, especially children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing respiratory conditions;
- Keep doors and windows closed as much as possible in buildings and vehicles.
- Avoid the use of non-HEPA paper face mask filters which are not capable of filtering extra fine particulates;
- Check or replace air conditioner filters. Use the air conditioner on the recirculate setting.

Learn more about health safety and wildfire smoke.
Questions and requests for recommendations concerning specialized outdoor events and school activities may be directed to the Butte County Air Quality Management District at 332-9400 during regular business hours.

This notification will remain in effect while the Carr Fire and the Mendocino Complex remains active. Outdoor residential burning is currently prohibited by CalFire. Information will be updated and posted to the District website as available at www.bcaqmd.org.

### Air Quality Index (AQI): Particle Pollution and Visibility Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Values</th>
<th>Levels of Health Concern</th>
<th>Cautionary Statements</th>
<th>Visibility Range in Miles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-50</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>10+ miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51-100*</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion.</td>
<td>5 – 10 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101-150</td>
<td>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</td>
<td>People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.</td>
<td>3 – 5 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151-200</td>
<td>Unhealthy</td>
<td>People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.</td>
<td>1.5 – 2.5 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201-300</td>
<td>Very Unhealthy</td>
<td>People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.</td>
<td>1 – 1.25 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301-500</td>
<td>Hazardous</td>
<td>People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should remain indoors and keep activity levels low. Everyone else should avoid all physical activity outdoors.</td>
<td>&lt; 0.75 miles</td>
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</tbody>
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