



City of Yakima

News Release

Subject: Air Quality Alert Extended Through Monday

Contact: Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 901-1142

Release Date: Friday, September 8th, 2017

Air Quality Alert Extended Through Monday

The Washington State Department of Ecology is extending an air quality alert for the Yakima area that is in effect until 10:00 am on Monday, September 11th.

The alert is due to wildfires burning in the region, combined with forecasts that call for conditions that could cause air quality to reach unhealthy levels.

Pollutants in smoke can cause burning eyes, runny nose, and aggravate serious health problems such as heart and lung diseases.

Children, the elderly, and individuals with respiratory illnesses are most at risk of serious health effects during the air quality alert.

The alert calls for limiting outdoor activities and keeping children indoors if the air quality is poor.

The National Weather Service said air quality conditions could temporarily improve this weekend due to increased westerly winds.

Information about air quality is on the Washington Department of Ecology website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/air.html> or by calling 360-407-6000.