

Air Quality Report and Outlook for 11/15/2016

The Party Rock Fire will continue to produce significant smoke over the next few days. Increased northwest winds will improve the dispersion and keep the smoke moving to the southeast over the next 2 days, but air quality will continue to be unhealthy for areas to the southeast of the Party Rock Fire. Smoke from other fires will also affect the air quality of the surrounding area.

Smoke will continue to settle into low level areas in the evenings and early mornings as temperatures and winds decrease after sunset. Smoke could impair driving conditions Wednesday morning.

Party Rock Smoke Report (prepared by John Cook/Dan Byrd (T), Air Resource Advisor)

Air Quality Outlook (Particulate Matter less than 2.5 µm in diameter)

Site	Tuesday Evening forecast 11/15/2016	Wednesday Morning forecast 11/16/2016	Wednesday Evening forecast 11/16/2016
Mill Spring	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
Columbus	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
Chimney Rock Area	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
Rutherfordton	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

AQI (µg/m3)	Potential Health Impacts	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good	Air quality is satisfactory and poses little or no health risk.	None
Moderate	Air quality is acceptable for most. There may be moderate health concern for a small number of sensitive people.	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.	People with heart or lung disease, children and older adults should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion. Everyone else should limit prolonged or heavy exertion.
Unhealthy	Everyone may begin to experience more serious health effects.	The following groups should avoid all physical outdoor activity: People with heart or lung disease, children and older adults. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
Very Unhealthy	Triggers a health alert, meaning everyone may experience more serious health effects	Everyone should avoid any outdoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should remain indoors.