

Air Quality Index Health Ratings

The Condon Mountain Fire has installed an air quality monitoring station at the Condon Work Center to allow locals to track how wildfire smoke affects air quality in this part of the Swan Valley. Its recording can be seen under Fire #25 at <http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/cgi-bin/smoke.pl>. Subtract six hours from the time listed on the site to indicate the local time. See the chart below to interpret the data.

PM2.5 24-hr Avg. Concentration (ug/m3)	PM2.5 1-hr Avg. Concentration (ug/m3)	Index Values	Visibility (Miles)	Level of Health Concern	Cautionary Statements
0.0 – 15.4	0.0 – 40.0	0-50	> 10	Good	None
15.5 – 40.4	40.1 – 80.0	51 – 100**	5.1 – 10.0	Moderate	None
40.5 – 65.4	80.1 – 175.0	101 - 150	3.1 – 5.0	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly, and children should limit prolonged exertion.
65.5 – 150.4	175.1 – 300.0	151 – 200	1.6 – 3.0	Unhealthy	People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid prolonged exertion, everyone else should limit prolonged exertion.
150.5 – 250.4	300.1 – 500	201 – 300	1.0 – 1.5	Very Unhealthy	People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid any outdoor activity, everyone else should avoid prolonged exertion.
250.5 +	500.0 +	301 - 500	< 1.0	Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should remain indoors.

The US EPA has developed an Air Quality Index (AQI) to provide easy to understand information on local air quality and whether air pollution levels pose a health concern.

Air Quality Index health rankings are based on 1-hour and 24-hour concentration averages.