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**Contact:** Sally Markos, 736-1056, ext.217  
Kim Metzler, 736-1056, ext. 218

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## **California Wildfire Smoke May Continue to Cloud Local Skies**

Smoke from California wildfires is impacting large parts of northern California and southern Oregon including the Eugene-Springfield area. Sunday afternoon, the air quality in the Eugene/Springfield area reached the unhealthy for sensitive groups level. With upper level wind directions predicted to be from the south through Wednesday, smoke may continue to impact the local area during the remainder of the week.

“When air quality reaches these levels, people with heart and lung disease or asthma can be impacted,” said Sally Markos, LRAPA spokesperson. “Older adults and children are most vulnerable and should avoid prolonged outdoor exercise or exertion.” Fine smoke particles are especially harmful because they are inhaled deep into the lungs and can enter the bloodstream. If smoke levels continue to rise, the general population may also experience some adverse effects.

LRAPA’s monitoring network is measuring elevated smoke levels at sites in Eugene, Springfield, Cottage Grove and Oakridge. The public can track hourly particulate levels by logging onto the LRAPA website at [www.LRAPA.org](http://www.LRAPA.org).

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