

Air Quality Forecast - Chelan Lake & Methow Valley Fires Wednesday, August 19, 2015

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Wednesday: Smoke will linger in Chelan and Manson throughout the morning, lift a little in early afternoon and settle back into these areas with the corresponding growth of northwest winds and corresponding fire activity. The upper Methow Valley will see a similar pattern with a brief clearing of the air in mid to late afternoon followed by a return of smoke from active fires north of the area. Being closer to the fires, Methow will likely see similar smoke conditions as Chelan throughout the day. Smoke will remain in Leavenworth and Wenatchee throughout the morning; clearing by mid to late afternoon.

Thursday: Smoke will linger in Chelan and Manson throughout the day, becoming worse in late afternoon. The upper Methow Valley will see smoky conditions until a late morning lift in the inversion. Methow will see variable smoke conditions throughout the day. Leavenworth and Wenatchee will be spared from smoky conditions and see good air quality throughout the day.

Friday: Between inversions holding in smoke, northwest winds and enhanced fire activity throughout the day, Chelan and Manson will not likely see much relief from smoke. Gusty northwest winds will keep Leavenworth, Wenatchee and the Methow Valley free of smoke from these fires for most of the day; smoke may settle in these areas overnight.

Site	August 19 Air quality -Today	August 20 Air Quality - Thurs	August 21 Air Quality - Fri	Comments
Chelan	Unhealthy	Unhealthy	Unhealthy	
Manson	Unhealthy	Unhealthy	Unhealthy	
Methow Valley	Unhealthy	Unhealthy	Good	
			Moderate	
Leavenworth	Unhealthy	Good	Good	
	Good		Moderate	
Wenatchee	Unhealthy	Good	Good	
	Good		Moderate	

Disclaimer: Conditions may change quickly. These predictions are based on anticipated weather and fire activity. The air quality outlook is based on data from automated instruments that have not been subjected to a quality assurance review. AQI's estimated for sites with air monitors.

Index Levels of Health Concern	Actions Recommended by WA Department of Ecology to Reduce Smoke Exposure
Good	None
Moderate	People with asthma, respiratory infection, diabetes, lung or heart disease, or have had a stroke should limit outdoor activities or do activities that take less effort, such as walking instead of running.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Sensitive groups include people with heart or lung disease, asthma, diabetes, infants, children, adults older than 65, pregnant women, or who have had a stroke. These people should limit time spent outdoors.
Unhealthy	Everyone should limit time spent outdoors. Everyone should avoid exercising outdoors (including sports teams) and choose non-strenuous indoor activities. People with asthma, respiratory infection, diabetes, lung or heart disease, or have had a stroke should stay indoors. Infants, children, pregnant women and adults over age 65 should also stay indoors.
Very Unhealthy	Everyone should stay indoors, do only light activities, and keep windows closed if it is not too hot. Run air conditioners on re-circulate and close the outside air intake. Use indoor air cleaners with HEPA filters, if available. If you must be outdoors, wear an N-95 respirator mask. People with chronic diseases should check with their health care provider before wearing a mask. Check with your local health department for health information. People with asthma, lung and heart disease, or have had a stroke should check with their health care provider for advice about leaving the area. Anyone with shortness of breath, wheezing, chest pain, heart palpitations, extreme fatigue, or difficulty moving or speaking should call their health care provider or call 911.
Hazardous	Everyone should stay indoors, do only light activities, and keep windows closed if it is not too hot. Run air conditioners on re-circulate and close the outside air intake. Use indoor air cleaners with HEPA filters, if available. If you must be outdoors, wear an N-95 respirator mask. People with chronic diseases should check with their health care provider before wearing a mask. Check with your local health department for health information. People with asthma, lung and heart disease, or have had a stroke should check with their health care provider for advice about leaving the area. Anyone with shortness of breath, wheezing, chest pain, heart palpitations, extreme fatigue, or difficulty moving or speaking should call their health care provider or call 911.

Webcam looking up Lake Chelan http://www.fsvisimages.com/fstemplate.aspx?site=okwe3_fire1

For more information about smoke in Washington State, visit <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>