

CITY OF SACRAMENTO CITY OF ELK GROVE COSUMNES CSD COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO Joint Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 8, 2008

CONTACT: See listing at end of release.

Cities and County Monitoring Air Quality/Hot Weather

As smoky conditions and hot weather continues in the Sacramento area, City and County officials are keeping a close eye on conditions, checking on vulnerable residents and providing daytime cooling facilities to homeless individuals.

The weather forecast states high daytime and nighttime temperatures that can put many people at risk. Officials want to remind residents to prepare themselves and their families during the next few days and to check on neighbors, friends, relatives and anyone who might be at risk. Pets should have access to cool water, shade, or brought indoors, out of the heat.

Detailed information on how to deal with the heat and any associated emergencies is available online at www.SacramentoReady.org. Public health information can be found at www.scph.com. Air quality information for the region is found at www.sparetheair.com. For information and referrals regarding any social service need, residents can call 2-1-1. Within the City of Sacramento, residents can call 3-1-1.

What can you do to stay safe in the heat?

- Avoid outdoor activities, particularly if you are in an area impacted heavily by the smoke as well as the heat.
- Be particularly watchful of children, seniors and anyone with respiratory or heart conditions.
- Check on your neighbors, family members and others who may not have access to air conditioning.
- Take advantage of public pools, shady parks, shopping malls, public libraries and other places that can offer an escape from the heat.
- Keep an eye out on outdoor pets as well, and make sure they have shade and enough cool water.

What is being done on behalf of more vulnerable residents?

- City and County workers who have direct contact with residents, such as Meals on Wheels staff, are checking on their welfare.
- Homeless service providers are working to ensure the safety of those who don't have a place to go to escape the heat.
- Utility workers and public safety personnel are also on the lookout for anyone who might need extra assistance.

Where can residents call for information?

You can call 211 in Sacramento County for information and referrals regarding any social service need, and operators are available around the clock to provide you with the most up to date information.

Updated information will be released tomorrow.

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