

Ozone Action Day Banner Program

Your business, school, or other organization can obtain a banner from AACOG for display when there is an Ozone Action Day, to serve as a reminder that strenuous outdoor activity should be limited, particularly for those with respiratory illnesses. The banner (pictured below) has grommets for hanging and is 3' x 5'. For more information about our banner program, please call (210) 362-5213.



More about AACOG's Air Quality Programs

For information about AACOG's other air-related programs, visit us on the Web at aacog.com/air or CleanAirDrive.com. If you'd like to connect directly with us, please contact Brenda Williams at (210) 362-5246 or bwilliams@aacog.com.

Other Air-Related Notification Programs

AirNow <http://airnow.gov>

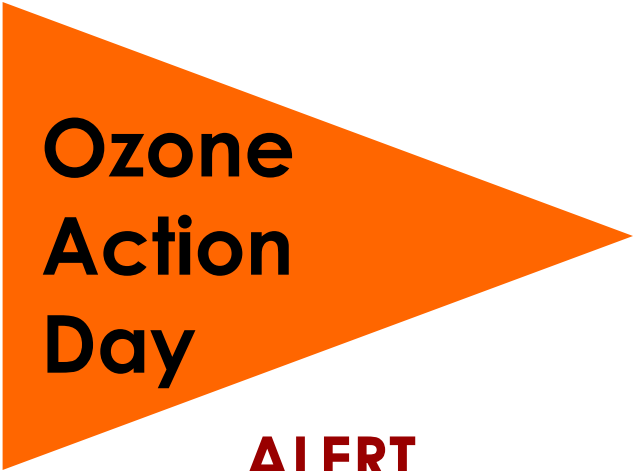
TCEQ: www.teceq.state.tx.us

Smartphone apps for current ozone levels:

- Google Play – State of the Air <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.reddeluxe.sota&hl=en>

- Tunes – State of the Air <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/state-of-the-air/id522123660?mt=8>

- iTunes – AirNow Link - <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/epa-airnow/id467653238?mt=8>



**Ozone
Action
Day**

ALERT
Notification Programs

AACOG

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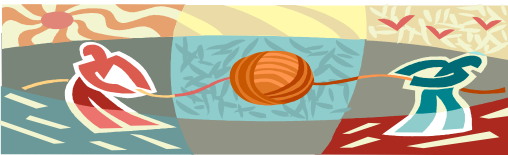


Sign up for alerts!

What is an “Air Quality Health Alert” or “Ozone Action Day”?

If you've lived in other parts of the country, you may have heard the term “ozone action day” or “ozone action alert.” Regardless of the name, the terms refer to the same thing: scientists have predicted that ozone pollution could reach unhealthy levels. For several years in the San Antonio Area, the term Air Quality Health Alert has been used to highlight the fact that when the amount of ground level ozone in our air is relatively high, it is a health issue.

Ozone in the upper atmosphere protects us from UV-B radiation.



Ground-level ozone is a pollutant

People are often aware that ozone in the upper atmosphere protects us from the sun's ultraviolet radiation. But they're generally less aware that ozone in the lower atmosphere, the air we breathe, is an air pollutant. It's the primary ingredient of smog.

How does ground-level ozone affect health?

The health effects of ozone can include lung irritation, a reduction in lung function, an increase in susceptibility to lung diseases, and sometimes, permanent lung damage. Multiple factors contribute to the severity of ozone's effect, such as an individual's sensitivity to the chemical, the amount of ozone in the air, and the duration and frequency of exposure.

Groups that are particularly sensitive to ozone include children, people with lung diseases such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, and emphysema, and people who are active outdoors.

Be among the air aware!

AACOG's Ozone Action Day Alert notification program helps to minimize ozone exposure by distributing email alerts to anyone who would like to receive one the day before ozone is expected to reach unhealthy levels. To have your email address added to the notification list, simply call us at (210) 362-5213 and provide your email address, or send it by email to: aprosterman@aacog.com.

You may also sign up yourself at www.aacog.com/list.aspx

What triggers an Ozone Action Day Alert?

Ground-level ozone forms when emissions from burning gasoline, diesel, and other fuels react with other airborne chemicals. Because ozone forms more readily when the weather is hot and sunny, San Antonio's ozone season extends from April through October.

Scientists with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality track meteorological and atmospheric conditions to predict when and where ozone is likely to reach unhealthy levels in the state. AACOG monitors these predictions and distributes alerts to schools, businesses, government agencies, and the media the day before ozone is predicted to rise locally.

The federal government developed a color-coded index to indicate the severity of ozone predictions and levels. An “orange” level corresponds with the national air quality standard set to protect human health. When ozone reaches the orange level, outdoor air is considered unhealthy for sensitive people. This is the level that triggers an Ozone Action Day Alert from AACOG.

