

Departmental Wildfire Smoke Plan

Washington State regulations require that employees who may be exposed to wildfire smoke at concentrations of 20.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ or more be provided with specified protections, and that their employers provide information and training to familiarize those employees with the hazards of smoke exposure.

Departments and supervisors that have potentially impacted employees must identify methods for monitoring smoke concentrations, for communicating with their employees, for providing protective equipment, monitoring employees for symptoms of exposure, and for responding when employees display symptoms of exposure.

Review and complete the following information for each location at which employees may be exposed to wildfire smoke. This information must be incorporated into the departmental accident prevention plan, and must be provided to all employees who may be exposed to wildfire smoke.

Departmental Wildfire Smoke Plan

Department:

Monitoring of smoke (particulate matter, PM_{2.5}) concentrations

For all work located on the WSU Tri-Cities campus, EHS will monitor PM_{2.5} concentrations via the particulate air monitor at Collaboration Hall. Monitoring data can be viewed at <http://airquality.wsu.edu>. If this monitor is unavailable, data from the Department of Ecology air monitoring network station in Kennewick (Metaline) will be used. This data can be viewed at <https://enviwa.ecology.wa.gov/home/map>.

Communication with Employees

Once threshold concentrations are reached, EHS will notify departments and employees via e-mail.

Departments with employees working outdoors must ensure that notifications are effectively disseminated. The department's method for ensuring communication with employees is as follows:

Additionally, employees are encouraged to communicate with their supervisor, department, and/or EHS if they observe worsening smoke conditions, if they experience symptoms of smoke exposure, or if they observe symptoms in coworkers. EHS can be reached at 509-372-7163, at Tricities.ehscompliance@wsu.edu, or via the Safety Concern Report Form at <https://tricitites.wsu.edu/facilities/ehs-safety-concern-report-form/>. Employees can communicate with department staff follows:

Training

Employees must receive wildfire smoke training prior to being assigned to work where they are exposed to wildfire smoke. Contact EHS for additional information regarding this training.

Protective Measures

In addition to notifications and training, the following protective measures will be implemented for employees with potential exposure to wildfire smoke. Departments may implement additional protective measures as indicated in the table below

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| PM_{2.5} Concentration | Protective Measures | Additional Departmental Measures |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 20.5-35.4 ug/m ³ | Make N95 masks available for voluntary use | |
| 35.5-250.4 ug/m ³ | Make N95 masks available for voluntary use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribute directly to employees, or ensure their location is known Recommend reduced outdoor assignment for individuals with known medical conditions | |
| 250.5-500.3 ug/m ³ | Issue N95 mask directly to each exposed employee Recommend reduced outdoor assignment for all employees, cancel/postpone any outdoor events | |
| 500.4 ug/m ³ | Cancel outdoor work and events. Employees who must work outdoors more than 15 minutes must be in a full respiratory protection program, including additional training, medical qualification, and fit-testing | |
| 555 ug/m ³ | Respirators with assigned protection factor of 25 or more required | |

Response Measures

If employees display symptoms indicating exposure to wildfire smoke:

- They shall be allowed to seek medical attention or follow medical advice, without reprisal.
- They shall be moved to a location to reduce or eliminate continued exposure to smoke.
- Where necessary, provisions must be made to provide prompt medical attention

Identify a location where department employees showing symptoms of smoke exposure will be moved to reduce or eliminate their continued exposure:

Describe how medical attention will be provided for employees whose symptoms require treatment:

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Department:

Location of Work:

Monitoring of smoke (particulate matter, PM_{2.5}) concentrations

For all work located off campus, the department must identify and utilize a suitable method for monitoring local PM_{2.5} concentrations. Data from sources such as the EPA AirNow network or the Department of Ecology Air Monitoring Network may be used if a location is reasonably nearby. Private air monitors such as the Purple Air network are not reliably accurate, and should not be relied upon.

Indicate how the department will monitor local smoke concentrations:

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