

TALKING POINTS

SMOKE AND PRESCRIBED FIRE

- All prescribed burns are approved through the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (AZDEQ) before ignition begins. The AZDEQ monitors air quality and determines whether or not it will be a good day for smoke dispersion. Although smoke from prescribed fire can still be noticeable, it is usually for a shorter time and considerably less smoke than wildfires produce.
- A team of meteorologists at AZDEQ examine the weather conditions to determine smoke dispersion, potential impacts, and other variables for each prescribed burn to approve or disapprove the given burn.
- Apache County residents with health concerns may contact the Apache County Public Health Services District in St. Johns at 928-337-7607.
- Navajo County residents may contact Navajo County Public Health Services at 928-524-4750 in Holbrook or 928-532-6050 in Show
- Residents can also view air quality across the state using AZDEQ's Portable Particulate Monitor network at www.phoenixvis.net/PPMmain.aspx. AZDEQ also released several publications last year about wildfires and prescribe fires. These reports detail both types of fires and show the role that AZDEQ has in them. The reports can be viewed at www.static.azdeq.gov/aqd/aqcode2_5.pdf and www.static.azdeq.gov/aqd/aqcode2_9.pdf
- Another website, www.smoke.azdeq.gov, is a link to an AZDEQ page listing the approved daily burns that are permitted by AZDEQ (or acknowledged by AZDEQ in the case of tribes).
- ADEQ welcomes and appreciates information/concerns from the public regarding air quality conditions observed on the ground. The on-line complaint form is a straight-forward way for residents to voice their concerns. Complaints are most helpful and effective when they include detailed information about smoke, including times when the smoke impacts began, and ended (if applicable).
 - A Web link to ADEQ's on-line complaint form follows:
<http://legacy.azdeq.gov/function/compliance/complaint.html>
- We do not have jurisdiction over Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Fort Apache has been doing a large number of burns in the area south/southeast of Show Low. You can see a complete list of agencies we have and don't have jurisdiction over here:
http://legacy.azdeq.gov/environ/air/ozone/smoke_prefix.htm
- You can view air quality across the state using our Portable Particulate Monitor network at the following link: <https://www.phoenixvis.net/PPMmain.aspx>
- We released several publication last year about wildfires and prescribe fires. They detail both types of fires and show the role that ADEQ has. You can view the documents here:
http://static.azdeq.gov/aqd/aqcode2_5.pdf and http://static.azdeq.gov/aqd/aqcode2_9.pdf
- The following link is to an ADEQ Web page listing the approved daily burns:
<http://smoke.azdeq.gov/> These are burns permitted by ADEQ (or acknowledged by ADEQ in the case of Tribes); however, they may not occur for various reasons, such as a change in weather conditions.
- A Web link to ADEQ's on-line complaint form follows:
<http://legacy.azdeq.gov/function/compliance/complaint.html> ADEQ welcomes and appreciates information/concerns from the public regarding air quality conditions observed on the ground.

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- A team of meteorologists at ADEQ examine the weather conditions to determine smoke dispersion, potential impacts, and other variables for each prescribed burn in order to approve or disapprove the given burn.