**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**
**Division of Air Quality**
**AIR QUALITY ADVISORY**
**Central Interior AK #2014-07**

**UNHEALTHY**

**LOCATION(S) IMPACTED**: North Pole and surrounding area.

**TIME/DATE OF UPDATE**: Wednesday January 29, 2014 4:00PM.

**VALID TIME** Wednesday January 29, 2014 4:00PM. to Thursday January 30, 2014 4:00PM.

**PROJECTED DURATION OF THE EVENT:** Wednesday January 29, 2014 4:00PM.. to Friday January 31, 2014 4:00PM.

**TIME/DATE OF THE NEXT REPORT:** Thursday January 30, 2014 4:00PM..

ADVISORY: The 24-hr $PM_{2.5}$ concentration in North Pole remains in the **UNHEALTHY** category. In Fairbanks concentrations have varied from UNHEALTHY FOR SENSTIVE GROUPS to GOOD depending on location within Fairbanks. Although conditions in North Pole and Fairbanks improved this afternoon, the National Weather Service forecasts the dispersion to return to poor tonight and conditions are expected to deteriorate over the next 24 hours.

**People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid prolonged exertion; everyone else should limit prolonged exertion. See the table below for more guidance on the Air Quality Index categories and Cautionary Statements**

**PUBLIC IMPACT:**
This is an area forecast, and as such is a general forecast for the Fairbanks North Pole area. Pollution levels will vary depending on precise location, local emission sources, and wind flow patterns. Note that this advisory is based in part on particulate matter readings from the Fairbanks and North Pole air quality monitoring sites. If you are sensitive to respiratory problems and experience any effects please follow the instructions of your physician.

Residents can take proactive measures to improve air quality by voluntarily reducing wood and coal burning while this air quality advisory is in effect. Residents who need to burn wood should ensure it is seasoned and practice smart burning practices.

State of Alaska Air Quality Control Plan provides the following guidance on wood smoke emission standards: A person may not operate a wood-fired heating device in a manner that causes (1) black smoke; or (2) visible emissions that exceed 50 percent opacity for more than 15 minutes in any one hour in an area for which an air quality advisory is in effect. (Reference: Department of Environmental Conservation, 18 AAC 50 Air Quality Control)

For information on this advisory, contact Michael Gravier with the Division of Air Quality at 907-269-7676.

The following table contains the cautionary statements for the Air Quality for Particle Pollution.

| Air Quality Category | Cautionary Statements |
|---|---|
| Good | None |
| Moderate | Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion. |
| Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups | People with heart or lung disease, the elderly and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion. |
| Unhealthy | People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid prolonged exertion; everyone else should limit prolonged exertion |
| Very Unhealthy | People with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should avoid any outdoor activity; everyone else should avoid prolonged exertion |
| Hazardous | Everyone should avoid any outdoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should remain indoors |

**OPEN BURN RESTRICTIONS: The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation prohibits open burning in the Fairbanks PM2.5 non-attainment area whenever there is an air quality advisory in effect for that area (18 ACC 50.065(e)).**

**For a map of the non-attainment area follow the link below**
**http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/doc/FNSB_PM2-5_NA_map_jan09.pdf**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

For information on FNSB Air Quality, visit their website at:
http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/

More information on Fairbanks air quality and ways to improve it are available at the following web sites: http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/anpms/comm/fbks1_pm.htm

For information on $PM_{2.5}$ issues in the Fairbanks area from the Department of Environmental Conservation, Air Quality Division, visit the website at:

http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/anpms/comm/fbks1_pm.htm