

MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

Department of Health and Human Services



907-343-6718

Mayor Dan Sullivan

For immediate release: January 30, 2014

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Air Quality Advisory Issued by Health Department

The Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services has issued a health advisory because concentrations of airborne particulate in Anchorage and Eagle River are approaching unhealthful levels.

Recent melting and road sanding have deposited sediments onto road surfaces. As the air and road surfaces dry, the fine particles in these sediments are easily stirred up by traffic and become airborne. Dusty conditions are expected as long as cold night-time temperatures and dry weather persists. Dust concentrations are expected to be highest along major roadways, especially during and following peak traffic hours.

The Department of Health and Human Services advises those with heart and lung ailments, such as asthma, bronchitis and emphysema, to avoid dusty areas near major traffic thoroughfares, if possible. Those with severe lung disease are advised to remain indoors.

The National Weather Service is forecasting cold, dry conditions for the next several days.

Air quality updates can be obtained by calling the Municipal Air Quality Hotline at 343-4899. Hourly updates of air quality data in Anchorage, Eagle River and Mat-Su are available on the Alaska Air Monitoring Network. You can find a guide and links to that network on the Anchorage Air Quality Program webpage at AnchorageAir.info.

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