



# News Release



Shelby County Health Department  
814 Jefferson Ave., Memphis, TN 38105

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 10, 2016

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**MONITORED OZONE EXCEEDENCE  
For Friday, June 10, 2016  
“Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups”**

**MEMPHIS** – In cooperation with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ); the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH); and the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Shelby County Health Department has issued a **“CODE RED” OZONE ADVISORY**, due to a monitored exceedance of the 8-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for ozone **for the Memphis Metropolitan Area**. The Memphis Metropolitan Area includes Shelby County, Tennessee, Crittenden County, Arkansas, and DeSoto County, Mississippi. The afternoon levels of ozone exceeded the eight-hour NAAQS and the Code Red threshold at the Marion monitor in Crittenden County, TN. Under existing Air Quality Index guidelines, current air quality throughout the Memphis Metropolitan Area has become **“Unhealthy for general public and very unhealthy for sensitive groups”** and is expected to remain so until after sunset this evening. *Pollution emissions, a stagnant atmosphere, clear skies, and high temperatures* are the primary factors responsible for this afternoon’s poor air quality. *Additional exceedances are possible for the remainder of this week if weather conditions do not significantly change.*

<b>Health Precautions:</b>	<b>OZONE REDUCTION TIPS</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>For Active Children And Adults</b></li> <li>• <b>For Persons With Respiratory Difficulties</b></li> </ul>	<b>RECOMMENDED DURING “CODE RED OZONE ADVISORIES”</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoid prolonged outdoor exertion</li> <li>• High ozone levels can cause nose, eye, throat, and lung irritation</li> <li>• High ozone levels can aggravate existing conditions and lead to increased potential for illness in this sensitive group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refuel cars and lawnmowers after 7:00 pm, avoid spills and do not “top off” tanks</li> <li>• Carpool or mass transit</li> <li>• Combine errands instead of many separate trips</li> <li>• Drive less, especially during peak hours or hot days</li> </ul>

**-MORE-**

For more information concerning air quality, contact one of the following:

SCHD Pollution Control at (901) 222-9599 or [www.midsouthcleanair.org](http://www.midsouthcleanair.org);

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality-Planning and Air Quality Analysis Branch-Air Division at (501) 682-0767 or [www.adeq.state.ar.us/air/default.htm](http://www.adeq.state.ar.us/air/default.htm);

The Arkansas Department of Health at (501) 661-2000 or [www.healthyarkansas.com/environment/environment.html](http://www.healthyarkansas.com/environment/environment.html);

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality-Air Standards and Planning-Air Quality at (601) 961-5134 or [www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/page/Air\\_Ozone?OpenDocument](http://www.deq.state.ms.us/MDEQ.nsf/page/Air_Ozone?OpenDocument).