



# News Release



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 21, 2016

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## MONITORED OZONE EXCEEDENCE For Thursday, July 21, 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 ORANGE” AIR QUALITY ADVISORY FOR OZONE**, 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, Miss. The afternoon levels of ozone exceeded the eight-hour NAAQS at the Shelby Farms monitor in Shelby County, Tennessee. Under existing Air Quality Index guidelines, current air quality throughout the Memphis Metropolitan Area has become **“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. **There will NO MATA discounts today.**

Health Precautions:	OZONE REDUCTION TIPS RECOMMENDED DURING “CODE ORANGE OZONE ADVISORIES”
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● For Active Children and Adults</li> <li>● For Persons With Respiratory Difficulties</li> <li>● Limit prolonged outdoor activities during afternoon hours</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>

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (Orange) <b>(Advisory)</b>	101 – 150	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
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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).

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