



News Release



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 23, 2016

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MONITORED OZONE EXCEEDENCE
For Monday, May 23, 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 Frayser and Edmund Orgill Park monitors in Shelby County, TN. 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.

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

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (Orange) (Advisory)	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;

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;

The Arkansas Department of Health at (501) 661-2000 or 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.