



When wildfires occur, the university monitors local air quality to assess the impact on operations and implements controls protective of employee health. Oregon OSHA rule [OAR 437-002-1081](#) protects employees against occupational exposure to wildfire smoke. The rules require certain actions that should be taken when wildfire smoke particulate concentrations reach specific thresholds (see chart below). Please review the [UO Wildfire Smoke Exposure Control Plan](#) which outlines roles and responsibilities of all employees to help reduce exposure. For more information, contact EHS.

WILDFIRE SMOKE ACTION LEVELS

PARTICULATE LEVEL		REQUIRED ACTION
AQI	PM/2.5	
≤100	<35.5 µg/m³	Normal Operations
101-276	35.5 - 200.8 µg/m³	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Supervisors of outdoor workers will inform staff of smoke event Remind employees to close all building windows and doors Where possible, place HVAC systems in "Smoke Mode" Provide employees training and 2-way communication method between supervisors and employees Either implement engineering controls* OR provide N95 for voluntary use EHS monitors air quality conditions
277-848	200.8 - 500.3 µg/m³	Exposed employees required to be provided and use N95 respirator - Wildfire Respiratory Protection Program
≥849	≥500.4 µg/m³	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Exposed employees required to be provided and use N95 respirator - Standard Respiratory Protection Program A campus closure may be implemented according to the Inclement Weather Protocols

*Engineering and administrative controls may include: relocating outdoor work to indoor work or vehicles, placing air scrubber in enclosed work area, changing employee work schedules to when better air quality is forecast, etc.

WHAT TO DO

- Take the [Wildfire Smoke Safety Training](#) on MyTrack!
- Supervisors of outdoor workers may reassign employees to indoor work where possible.
- Visit safety.uoregon.edu to read the [Wildfire Smoke Exposure Control Plan](#)
- Eugene campus use [WeatherSTEM](#). Portland, OIMB, and field locations use [AirNow.gov](#) for AQI data. (Download the free WeatherSTEM and AirNow apps to your smartphone)
- Exposed employees, decide if you want to voluntarily wear an N95 if smoke from a wildfire has results in AQI levels between 101 – 276.
- N95s are respirators! If you want to wear an N95 at work outside of wildfire smoke season, **you must first [contact EHS](#) for consultation and training.**
- Report work-related smoke effects injuries and illnesses to your supervisor. Call **911** and **UOPD** (541-346-2919) if experiencing difficulty breathing, irregular heartbeat, or chest pain.

