

Air Quality Information

Ozone and Particulate Matter



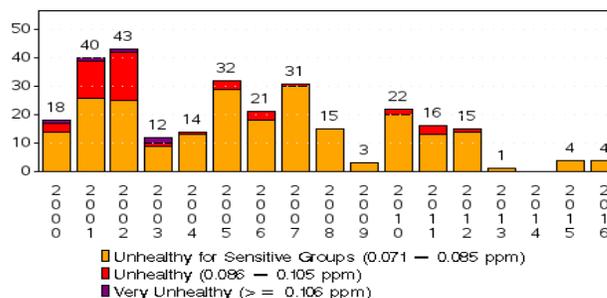
PARTNERSHIP FOR
PUBLIC HEALTH

How can you reduce the risk of Ozone and Particulate Matter exposure?

The simplest solution to reducing your exposure to air pollutants is by staying indoors during times when there are air quality alerts. Multiple sources broadcast these alerts so people should check daily on the quality of the air. It is also important to limit time spent outside near high traffic areas and smokestacks since these release a large amount of PM. Using electric household items such as a lawnmower and leaf blower, will also reduce your risk of inhaling these dangerous pollutants as opposed to gas powered machinery. Using less energy in general will help everyone breathe better since it will lessen the amount of fuels that power plants need to burn, therefore lessening the amount of pollutants that they put into the air.

Source: American Lung Association

Number of Days 8-hr Ozone Daily Max > 0.070 ppm
2000-2016
in Lancaster County, PA



Note: Based on ALL sites
Source: U.S. EPA AirData <<https://www.epa.gov/air-data>>
Generated: December 8, 2016

Over the past 15 years, the number of ozone exceedance days per year in Lancaster County has been steadily decreasing. Although some years we've had spikes in the number of exceedance days, the numbers within recent years are nowhere near the numbers we had 14 and 15 years ago.

Over the past 10 years, concentrations of PM in the county have stayed relatively constant with little change. Approximately 10 years ago, concentration values for PM were high than they were in recent years. However, we still see a fair amount of PM exceedance days per year.

As a community, it is important that we all take steps to limit our contribution to the production of air pollution. We must continue to lessen the amount of surface ozone and PM that we see on a daily basis in order to ensure that the air is safe to breathe for generations to come.

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