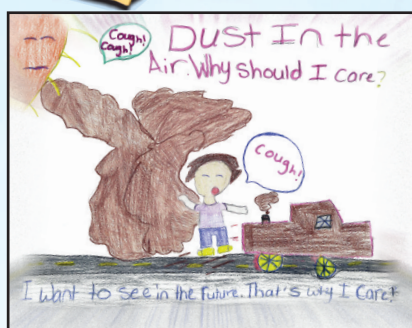


“Dust in the Air, Why Should I Care?” was the theme of the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District’s 2013 Clean Air Month Poster Contest. In this section are three of the winning posters which illustrate local students’ ideas for reducing dust from unpaved roads and improving air quality. Each year, the local regulatory air agency selects a relevant air theme to spotlight in its annual contest, which receives an average of 800 entries from youngsters residing within the MDAQMD’s 20,000 square mile jurisdiction.

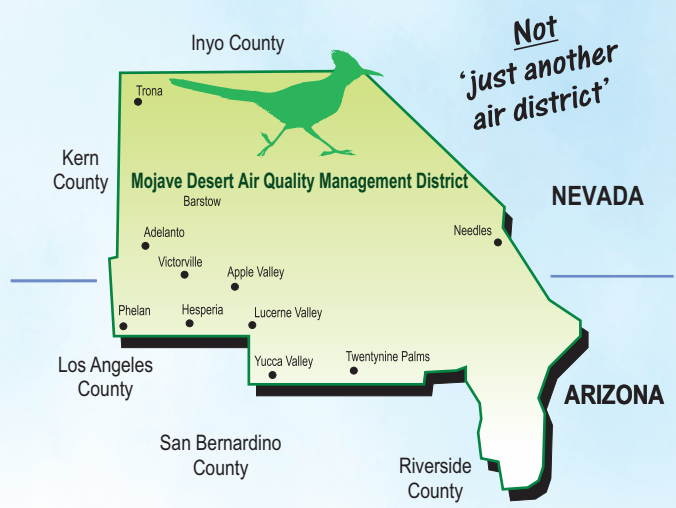
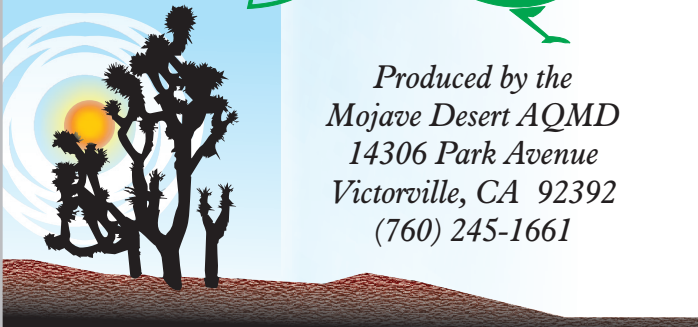


The MDAQMD continually strives to raise public awareness regarding the importance of individual choices in preventing air pollution. Our youth outreach programs – including the annual poster contest – are part of the MDAQMD’s ongoing commitment to insuring cleaner, more healthful air quality for all High Desert residents.

“Clean Air is Everybody’s Business!”



Produced by the Mojave Desert AQMD
14306 Park Avenue
Victorville, CA 92392
(760) 245-1661



Map Not to Scale

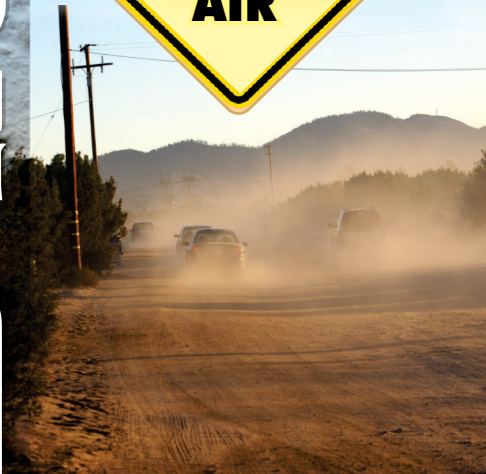


UNPAVED ROADS:

**SLOW DOWN FOR CLEAN AIR
PROTECTING YOUR HEALTH & SAFETY**

For more information, visit www.mdaqmd.ca.gov

UNPAVED ROADS



Protecting Your Health & Safety

Here in the High Desert, it's not uncommon to see a “Dust Devil” on a windy day, or a cloud of dust blowing across a cleared lot. We usually take blowing dust in stride...but when it starts affecting the health and safety of those we love, dust can become a problem. Fortunately, it's a problem you can help prevent...by Slowing Down for Clean Air!!

Dust by the Numbers

Did you know that a single car traveling an unpaved road once a day for a year produces ONE TON of dust per mile? This translates to 100 tons of Particulate Matter (PM) a year for each mile of road, with an average of 100 vehicles a day!

The amount of dust produced is directly related to vehicle speed. The slower you drive on an unpaved road, the less dust is produced. Cutting average vehicle speeds from 40 to 35 mph will reduce dust emissions by 40%.

Health Effects of PM

In addition to polluting the air, dust from unpaved roads can be a health problem for nearby residents and for pedestrians. If inhaled in large amounts, PM can cause:

- Breathing difficulties
- Respiratory pain
- Reduced lung function
- Weakened immune system
- Eye irritation
- Increased severity of acute bronchitis, asthma and emphysema
- Heart attacks
- Increased lung cancer risk
- Premature death

Children can be especially sensitive to PM pollution, because they take in more breaths per minute than adults.

Photos Courtesy of Jim Babinski



Driving Under the Influence of Dust

Dust storms from unpaved roads can also have dangerous consequences, as blowing PM reduces visibility for both drivers and pedestrians. This can lead to traffic accidents, serious injury or even death.

What Can I Do to Help?

Do your lungs a favor and help keep everyone safe by:

- Driving mostly on paved roads.
- Allowing sufficient travel time to avoid shortcuts on unpaved roads.
- If you must drive on an unpaved road, reduce your speed to 15 mph – SLOW DOWN FOR CLEAN AIR!
- Carpooling — Less cars on the road = Less air pollution.
- Walking or riding your bicycle away from unpaved roads, instead of driving.
- Educating your family and neighbors about the health risks and visibility dangers of particulate air pollution from unpaved roads.



Reducing Speed to 15 M.P.H. can save yours and your children's lungs!

The Dirty Truth about Unpaved Roads

Unpaved roads are the largest source of particulate air pollution in the country. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, vehicles driving on unpaved roads produce almost five times as much Particulate Matter as construction activities and wind erosion (the next two largest sources) combined.

PM or Fugitive Dust are solid particles which come primarily from the soil. Fugitive Dust is caused when soil is disturbed through digging, earthmoving or vehicle traffic. Fugitive Dust contributes to PM pollution that is primarily 10 microns and smaller. PM10 is a harmful mix of soot, chemicals, dust, salts, dirt, metals, smoke and toxins. PM10 also includes even smaller particles called PM 2.5 that can bypass the body's natural defenses and lodge deep in the lungs.

Rules to Breathe By

The MDAQMD's rules and regulations require certain property owners, contractors, developers, equipment operators and public agencies to control PM emissions from the movement of vehicles on unpaved roads.

Regulation IV – *Prohibitions* – includes the following applicable rules:

- Rule 401 - Visible Emissions
- Rule 402 – Nuisance
- Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust
- 403.1 – Fugitive Dust Control for the Searles Valley Planning Area
- 403.2 – Fugitive Dust Control for the Mojave Desert Planning Area

