

For Immediate Release
June 16, 2006

Notice of Smog Advisory

Today, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment issued a *Smog Advisory* effective immediately, until further notice for the following forecast region:

Windsor-Essex-Chatham-Kent

A *Smog Advisory* is issued when there is a high probability for elevated smog levels.

Hot, sunny conditions combined with a light southerly flow of polluted air from the U.S. and local build-up of pollutants are resulting in elevated smog levels in the extreme southwestern parts of Ontario.

Smog is a hazy mix of pollutants made up of ground-level ozone, fine particulate matter and other pollutants. During the summer months, more than half of Ontario's smog-causing pollution originates in the United States. In cooler months, domestic sources can be significant contributors to the formation of fine particulate matter.

The website www.airqualityontario.com contains a list of "spare the air" actions (www.airqualityontario.com/science/spareair.cfm) to help combat smog and minimize its effect on sensitive populations. If you want to learn more about air quality, visit the Ministry of the Environment's website at www.ene.gov.on.ca.

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