

For Immediate Release
July 17, 2006

Smog Advisory Lifted

Effective immediately, the Ministry of the Environment has lifted its *Smog Advisory* for the following regions:

Barrie-Orillia-Midland	Kingston-Prince Edward
Belleville-Quinte-Northumberland	London-Middlesex
City of Hamilton	Niagara
City of Toronto	Oxford-Brant
Dufferin-Innisfil	Parry Sound-Muskoka-Huntsville
Dunnville-Caledonia-Haldimand	Peterborough-Kawartha Lakes
Elgin	Sarnia-Lambton
Grey-Bruce	Simcoe-Delhi-Norfolk
Haliburton	Waterloo-Wellington
Halton-Peel	Windsor-Essex-Chatham-Kent
Huron-Perth	York-Durham

A cold front is moving across the province bringing cloudiness and unsettled weather. This change has resulted in cleaner air in the air quality forecast regions listed above.

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.

Communications Branch

(416) 314-6666