

For Immediate Release
August 2, 2006

Smog Advisory Partially Lifted

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

Barrie-Orillia-Midland	Kingston-Prince Edward
Belleville-Quinte-Northumberland	Niagara
City of Hamilton	Oxford-Brant
City of Toronto	Parry Sound-Muskoka-Huntsville
Dufferin-Innisfil	Peterborough-Kawartha Lakes
Dunnville-Caledonia-Haldimand	Simcoe-Delhi-Norfolk
Grey-Bruce	Waterloo-Wellington
Haliburton	York-Durham
Halton-Peel	

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

However, a *Smog Advisory* continues and is in effect until further notice for the following regions:

Elgin	Sarnia-Lambton
Huron-Perth	Windsor-Essex-Chatham-Kent
London-Middlesex	

Hot, hazy and humid conditions combined with a southwesterly flow of polluted air from the United States and local build-up of pollutants are expected to result in elevated smog levels across parts of southwestern 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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