

For more information, please contact Benton Clean Air Agency 509.783.1304

## **Press Release**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 2, 2017

## Benton Clean Air Agency Issues Air Quality Alert Wildfire Smoke

Benton Clean Air Agency has issued an air quality alert. Air Quality has reached unhealthy (red) levels as a result of the smoky conditions we are experiencing. Most of the smoke is coming from fires further north in Washington and in Canada.

Individuals should consider air quality conditions before prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors. This applies especially to those who are sensitive to air pollution. Sensitive groups include older adults, children, people who work or exercise outdoors, and those with heart conditions and respiratory ailments such as asthma, bronchitis and emphysema. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

The current fire danger is extreme which means that all outdoor burning is illegal.

Air quality can change quickly; current air quality information can be viewed at our website <a href="https://www.bentoncleanair.org">www.bentoncleanair.org</a> on the home page, for more detail follow the links just to the right of the dial for Washington Air Quality Advisory.

Updated statewide information including health guidance can be found at <a href="http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/">http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/</a>; Washington Smoke Information.

Updated weather information, including Air Quality Alerts from the National Weather Service can be found at <a href="http://www.weather.gov/pdt/">http://www.weather.gov/pdt/</a>.

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