

Episode 56FGa June 17, 2023. South Carolina's Dogwood Alliance and other news stories on wood smoke.

United States

NASA, Upper Midwest

NASA: Smoke Blankets the Upper Midwest - SnowBrains

SnowBrains

The fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in this pollution can enter the lungs and lead to health problems. soot moving across the US from wildfire ...

Indiana, Perry Township

Perry Township elementary school one of 10 finalists for 'World's Best School' - Fox 59

Fox 59

A wood-burning stove inside a burned out cabin rests against a portion of the · After George Floyd's killing, DOJ probe finds ...

Kansas, Leavenworth

Avoid burning wood as a heat source for your house - Leavenworth Times

Leavenworth Times

Mark Rountree The last I read was that there were at least 160 wildfires burning in eastern Canada in addition to the many burning in western ...

Maryland

Smoke alarms failed in Preston house fire | News | wrde.com

WRDE

A wood framed, single story family home on Butler Road was damaged in a fire Friday morning. Courtesy Maryland State Fire Marshal.

Missouri, Kansas City

Kansas City warehouse blaze hospitalizes 3 firefighters - The Seattle Times

The Seattle Times

An official says workers safely escaped a Kansas City wood-pallet warehouse fire but three firefighters have been hospitalized for minor injuries.

New Hampshire, Concord

Is burning wood for heat/power good or bad? (yes, again) - Granite Geek - Concord Monitor

Granite Geek - Concord Monitor

The question of whether biomass energy - burning wood in some form to use the heat and power - is good or bad for fighting climate change has been ...

New York, Nassau County

Smoke caused Long Island's worst air quality since at least 1999, pollution data shows - Newsday Newsday Fine particulate pollution known as PM 2.5 pushed Nassau County's average daily air quality index to 185 on June 7 – at the top end of the “unhealthy” ...

New York, Poconos

Northeast air quality affected by wildfire smoke again - Pocono Record

Pocono Record

Air quality alerts are triggered by a number of factors, including the detection of fine-particle pollution – known as PM 2.5 – that can irritate ...

North Carolina

Massive wildfire burning at NC coast after 'controlled burn' goes out of control - WNCT

WNCT

The fire is burning east of N.C. 211 in the Green Swamp Game Land and Green Swamp Nature Preserve.

Ohio, Madison Township and Painesville

Wood-burning heater cause of Painesville garage fire - News-Herald

News-Herald

A wood-burning heater in a garage on Liberty Street in Painesville started a small fire that was quickly controlled



Pennsylvania

[DEP Declares Code Orange Air Quality Action Day for Fine Particulate Matter for Saturday ...](#)

Pennsylvania Pressroom - PA.GOV

Due to lingering fine particulate matter (PM2.5) values across Quebec and Ontario, ... Reducing or eliminating fireplace and wood stove use; ...

Pennsylvania, Lehigh Valley

[Code Orange Air Quality Action Day declared for Saturday in the Lehigh Valley](#)

Lehigh Valley Live

The culprit again is lingering 2.5-micron particulates from wildfires ... An air quality forecast Thursday indicated the PM 2.5 pollution from the ...

South Carolina

Act Now for the Forests and People of the South Can't see this email? [View it online](#)

Dogwood Alliance

OUR FORESTS.

OUR STRENGTH.

Uniting with the forests and people of the South.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is promoting bioenergy in other countries. This means that even while we're fighting to stop big bad bioenergy here, our own government is promoting it abroad! By endorsing bioenergy, the USDA is making the climate crisis worse. The agency is also undermining the quality of life for vulnerable communities across the US.

[Act now to prevent further damage. Protect our planet for future generations.](#)

[Take Action »](#)

Southern communities under the thumb of bioenergy facilities suffer never-ending noise and air pollution. Plants operate 24/7. Heavy trucks drive through local communities at all hours of the day and night. This impacts people's sleep. It prevents them from being outside safely. This hurts their overall health and wellness. This needs to stop.

Together, we can bring about meaningful change. Let's protect our planet from the devastating consequences of harmful bioenergy. By taking action today, you are making a difference for our climate, our communities, and our future.

[Take action today to tell the USDA to stop promoting bioenergy!](#)

[Take Action »](#)

Together, we can create a more sustainable, just world for all.

For our forests and communities,

Texas, Fort Worth

[When are outdoor burn bans issued? What to know as temperatures rise in Tarrant County](#)

Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Can I barbecue during a burn ban? · Gas grills are the safest outdoor cooking option. · If you want to use a charcoal or wood-burning grill, it must be ...

Texas, Tarrant County

[When are outdoor burn bans issued? What to know as temperatures rise in Tarrant County](#)

Yahoo Finance

Can I barbecue during a burn ban? · Gas grills are the safest outdoor cooking option. · If you want to use a charcoal or wood-burning grill, it must be ...

Virginia, Hampton Roads

[13News Now 5 p.m. | 13newsnow.com](#)

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With a passion for storytelling, 13News Now brings you news, weather, sports, traffic, and more for the Hampton Roads and Eastern Shore areas of ...

Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 15, 2023

Contact: Craig Czarnecki, DNR Air Program Public Information Specialist

craig.czarnecki@wisconsin.gov or 608-250-0945

DNR Recommends Wisconsinites Limit Time Outside

Due To Canadian Wildfire Smoke



The DNR is advising Wisconsinites to reduce their time outdoors due to ongoing air quality alerts resulting from Canadian wildfire smoke. / Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is recommending Wisconsinites to reduce their time outdoors due to ongoing air quality alerts resulting from Canadian wildfire smoke. Health impacts are expected across most of Wisconsin today, where the air quality index is expected to range from the UNHEALTHY FOR SENSITIVE GROUPS to the UNHEALTHY level. People with heart or lung disease, older adults and children should consider making outdoor activities shorter and less intense and reduce heavy exertion. Consider rescheduling or moving events indoors.

Protect Yourself From Wildfire Smoke

Check your local Air quality index.

[Get current air quality conditions from the statewide air monitoring network - Wisconsin Data Map](#)

Download the free WisconsinAQM mobile app to receive air quality updates from anywhere using their mobile device. Download in the [Apple App Store](#) or the [Google Play Store](#).

[Sign up to receive air quality advisory notices to your email or via text.](#)

Stay indoors.

Close doors and windows.

Avoid activities that increase indoor pollution - vacuuming, frying food, burning candles or using gas powered appliances.

Install a high-efficiency air filter.

Use an N95 mask if outdoors for long periods.

Cleaner air is streaming in from the northeast today and should bring much of the state below the air quality advisory threshold by early Friday morning.

This is the sixth time this spring that an air quality advisory has been issued in Wisconsin. All six have been a direct result of Canadian wildfire smoke. Air quality alerts are expected to continue through the summer, as wildfires continue to occur. The DNR asks the public to stay vigilant as alerts are issued.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 9, 2023

Contact: Sarah Murray, DNR E-Cycle Wisconsin Coordinator Sarah.Murray@wisconsin.gov or 608-234-0533

Prevent Recycling Fires By Safely Disposing

Of Used Batteries

A punctured or bent lithium-ion battery can produce enough heat to melt or ignite materials near the battery, even if the battery itself does not ignite. / Photo Credit: Outagamie County Recycling and Solid Waste
MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds the public of the dangers of throwing rechargeable batteries, electronics and other materials that could cause a fire in trash or recycling bins.

In the last month, there have been large, damaging fires at multiple Wisconsin recycling facilities. While it is hard to pinpoint the exact cause of each fire, many batteries, especially powerful lithium-ion batteries found in many electronics, can cause fires when not disposed of properly. These batteries hold a considerable charge even when they no longer provide enough energy to power the device, and when damaged, they can spark or heat up and cause a fire.

“It only takes one lithium-ion battery to cause a huge fire and put workers and fire crews at risk,” said Sarah Murray, DNR E-Cycle Wisconsin coordinator. “Recycling facilities that handle cans, bottles and paper are not designed to handle batteries and electronics. Paper, cardboard and other material can easily catch fire with a spark from a damaged battery or rechargeable device.”

If not caught early, these fires can quickly spread and injure workers or firefighters, cause major damage to equipment, or even destroy an entire facility. In the past month, fires have caused severe damage at recycling and solid waste facilities in Columbia County and Milwaukee.

“When you put electronics or rechargeable batteries in your recycling or trash container, you’re putting workers and facilities at risk,” said Greg Kaminski, Columbia County solid waste director. “Taking batteries and electronics to a drop-off site may be an extra step, but it’s really important.”

Some batteries, such as single-use alkaline batteries, are safe to put in the trash. But it’s important to understand your batteries and how to store and dispose of them.

“With so many devices in our homes powered by so many different shapes and types of batteries, we know it can be confusing,” Murray said. “We want to help everyone understand how to identify their batteries and where you can recycle batteries and electronics.”

The DNR encourages everyone to follow these tips:



Be aware that some batteries and battery-powered devices can pose significant hazards if damaged or tossed in the trash. Learn about the different types of batteries you have and how to manage them. The DNR has a [household battery recycling guide](#) to help.

Take used, rechargeable batteries to local collection sites. Check with battery retailers about their recycling programs or search for nearby sites through battery recycling organization Call2Recycle’s [website](#) or by calling 1-877-2-RECYCLE.

Recycle old electronics through E-Cycle Wisconsin. Many small electronics can be recycled for free or traded in for credit or cash. Visit the DNR’s [list of collection sites and free mail-back programs](#).

Don’t put electronics or rechargeable batteries in trash or recycling containers. Most electronics are banned from landfills and incinerators, and they cannot be recycled at the same facilities that recycle plastics, glass and paper.

When storing batteries for recycling, tape the terminals or put each battery in an individual plastic bag, which prevents batteries from accidentally sparking if terminals touch.

Store damaged (swollen, bent, punctured or crushed) batteries or devices in sand or kitty litter and, if possible, contact the manufacturer or Call2Recycle for instructions.

Do not try to remove non-removable batteries from devices, as this could damage the battery and cause a fire.

Note that businesses and institutions have special requirements to determine which types of batteries they have and manage batteries according to hazardous waste regulations.

For more information, refer to the DNR webpage on [properly handling used batteries](#).

Australia, Victoria, Melbourne, Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay

[Air monitors show startling results - Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay | Star Weekly](#)

Maribyrnong & Hobsons Bay | Star Weekly

Mr. Yates has been monitoring PM 2.5, the major particulate in diesel exhaust. “I initially started setting them up out of interest to see what was ...

Asia

Brunei

[Brunei breathes easy | Borneo Bulletin Online](#)

Borneo Bulletin

Azlan Othman. Brunei Darussalam is the second lowest polluted country in the world with particulate matter (PM) 2.5 mean annual exposure and just ...

Technology

[DOE releases Wood Heater Design Challenge workshop report | Biomassmagazine.com](#)

Biomass Magazine

However, residential wood heaters such as wood stoves or wood-burning appliances can negatively impact air quality and contribute to environmental ...

Clean Technology as alternative to Residential Wood Burning

[Electric Fireplace Ambience - The Street Journal](#)

The Street Journal

Electric fireplaces produce no fire, no smoke. . Cleaner than traditional fireplaces ... It is an improvement on gas and wood-burning fireplaces .

[Residents Against Wood Smoke Emission Particulates, see https://RAWSEPresidents.wordpress.com and click on the nearest right icon for the latest month, June 2023, of PDFs of articles with U R L’s to search on. To the right of that, Games such as 1\)Bingo for RAWSEP, 2\)Crosswords for RAWSEP, 3\)EndWoodSmokeJeopardy. 4\)EndWoodSmokeMonopoly Games, 5\) a RAWSEP Flyer, 6\)the Un-Twist-it Game, and 7\)“Vending Machines for PM2.5 monitors”, and icon links to 30 minute Youtube videos and Spotify podcasts as well as podcasts on Amazon Music Prime \(free for Prime subscribers\), podcasts.google.com, Cast Box, and Pocket Cast \(Pocket Cast is only free on the phone App. Pocket Cast works on Apple phones\) and, below those icons, icon links to monthly PDFs of articles with URL’s to search on, from May 2023 to May 2022.](#)

