

Safety



Bulletin

October 25, 2019

Information Regarding Monitoring Wildfire and Power Outage Events Update #1

UCSF Emergency Management teams are closely monitoring the expected impact this afternoon and over the weekend on Bay Area air quality from smoke caused by the Kincadee wildfire and power outages as part of PG&E's response to hazardous weather conditions in Northern California.

As of today, the Kincadee fire raging in Sonoma County remains active and minimally contained. While weather conditions may change, this fire is projected to generate smoke that reaches San Francisco and the East Bay areas later this afternoon and throughout the weekend.

As a result, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District expects the air quality late afternoon on Friday or Saturday to reach the "orange" level, indicating that the air is unhealthy for sensitive groups. These groups include people who have heart or lung disease, such as asthma or COPD, older adults and children, all of whom should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.

To check on current outdoor air quality, please visit the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) AirNow website, which is regularly updated as conditions change: <https://airnow.gov/>. The EPA website includes maps identifying the air quality index using a color-coded system, as well as details on what pollutants are present and who might be at risk.

UCSF is following government agency and evidence-based health guidelines that advise that the most effective measures for protection against wildfire smoke are to:

- Limit outdoor activities to avoid unnecessary exposure.
- Stay indoors as much as possible with windows and exterior doors closed.
- Set air conditioning units at home and car vent systems to re-circulate.
- Consult with your health care provider if you experience symptoms related to smoke exposure.

Per UCSF's protocol, if air quality levels reach **orange-level** conditions, University managers will make available N-95 respirator masks upon request to those UCSF

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Mike Denson
Chief of Police

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employees who work outdoors. Those with heart or respiratory conditions should consult with their health care provider prior to wearing a mask. If conditions worsen and wider mask distribution is warranted, the UCSF community will be informed.

Facilities teams are in the process of preparing University buildings for deteriorating air quality conditions, such as by closing doors and operable windows.

In addition, UCSF is closely monitoring plans by PG&E to activate its Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) over the weekend in some Bay Area counties. UCSF campus sites in San Francisco and Oakland are not expected to be impacted by PSPS outages this weekend.

Members of the UCSF community are encouraged to prepare for recurring PG&E power outages. Please check PG&E's PSPS website for details about what to do before and during power outages: https://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/outage-readiness.page

UCSF employees and learners who are sensitive to smoke or whose family members may be impacted by closures or power outages, should consult with their manager or advisors about their unique situation to request special accommodations.

More resources can be found on the following websites:

- PG&E map of outages: https://www.pge.com/en_US/safety/emergency-preparedness/natural-disaster/wildfires/psps-event-maps.page
- Google map of outages: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=11OZXAhqf-NnZHfCSz-4puYSjangbG4e&ll=37.78961840853223%2C-122.02310933614916&z=10>
- PG&E resource centers: <https://abc7news.com/society/list-bay-area-resource-centers-opened-for-those-impacted-by-pg-e-shutoff/5604832/>

Any concerns over the weekend can be directed to UCSF PD by calling (415) 476-1414 and request the HSEM Duty Officer.

Help fight crime by reporting suspicious persons and/or suspicious activity to UCSF PD immediately—race, gender, and religious affiliation are NOT considered suspicious. For emergency or in-progress events, dial 9-911 when using on-campus land lines and 415.476-6911 when using cell phones. For non-emergency calls, please dial 415.476-1414.

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