

# SCGOVALERT

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**June 7, 2010**

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## **Health advisory issued on outdoor air quality**

The Sarasota County Health Department has issued an air quality advisory for currently elevated particulate levels and the potential for elevated particulate levels that fall within the "unhealthy for sensitive groups" category, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) national ambient air quality standards for public health.

This air advisory is in effect for the remainder of today, June 7.

The elevated levels were detected today at the Jackson Road and the Bee Ridge Park air monitoring stations.

People with respiratory ailments may experience health effects during this air quality advisory and should limit their outdoor activities. Others are not likely to be affected. Anyone with health-related questions should contact their personal health care provider.

On Dec. 17, 2006, the EPA significantly strengthened its National Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter. EPA reviews these standards every five years to determine if revisions are necessary to improve public health and protect plants and sensitive ecosystems.

Sarasota County currently meets or falls very close to EPA standards, thanks to an EPA-approved air quality monitoring program and proactive steps to reduce the county's own greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask about air quality.

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