



For Immediate Release:
May 17, 2024

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Governor Landry declares May as Air Quality Awareness Month

BATON ROUGE –Louisiana Governor Jeff Landry designated May as Air Quality Awareness Month in the state, highlighting the importance of maintaining the current high standards of air quality.

Air quality in Louisiana is currently at its best since the implementation of the Clean Air Act.

“Awareness and cooperation are vital for sustaining and enhancing air quality in Louisiana. I appreciate Secretary Giacometto and all of LDEQ for their work to promote Air Quality Awareness Month,” **said Governor Jeff Landry.**

May marks the onset of the ozone season due to the rising frequency of clear and windless days. The sunny, spring days that we enjoy can be bad for ozone levels, potentially causing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) to combine and form ozone. The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) issues air quality advisories based on ozone forecasts to help vulnerable populations make informed decisions regarding outdoor activities during these times. These advisories are influenced by factors like precursor pollutants, sunlight, and wind conditions. Louisiana’s background levels of ozone are close to the standard from natural precursors, biogenic chemical compounds emitted from trees, plants, lightning, and other natural occurrences. These background level components combined with man-made pollutants in the presence of sunlight and stagnant winds can result in air quality advisories.



“LDEQ has and will continue to make measurable impacts to ensure clean and healthy environments, which includes good quality air for Louisiana,” **said Secretary Giacometto.**

Industries follow stringent standards and often have ozone action day procedures in place. Louisiana citizens can contribute to clean air by adopting practices such as walking, biking, carpooling, ridesharing and using mass transit.

Other ways in which you can help keep the air clean include: using gasoline-powered engines after 6 p.m., fueling your car when weather conditions are cooler, turning off your car engine when your car is parked, taking your lunch to work in lieu of driving and conserving energy in your home.



It is important to be aware of the air quality. One way to do this is by signing up for EnviroFlash. This free, automated air quality notification system will send you an advisory, by email or text, when an Air Quality Advisory is forecasted. You can also sign up to receive air quality information daily. To register for EnviroFlash, visit <http://deq.louisiana.gov/page/enviroflash>.

If you need real-time air quality data, you can find accurate and timely information at <http://airquality.deq.louisiana.gov>. Being air-aware allows you to make the best choices for your health and the environment.



Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, clean air is important to the health and well-being of Louisiana residents; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana continually makes strides in maintaining and enhancing clean air to protect Her environment, and the health, safety, and welfare of Her residents; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has shown steady reductions in levels of air pollution in outdoor air over the past four decades; and

WHEREAS, if individuals, communities, businesses, industry and local governments in Louisiana continue working together, coordinating with other states and the federal government, we can achieve still cleaner air; and

WHEREAS, the well-being of our environment, as well as our health, comfort and quality of life depends on air quality; and

WHEREAS, we are all stewards of air quality upon which future generations depend; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the health and welfare issues associated with air pollution;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Jeff Landry**, do urge all residents to learn more about what they can do to reduce air pollution and do hereby proclaim May 2024 as **Air Quality Awareness Month** in the State of Louisiana.



In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana at the Capitol in the city of Baton Rouge on this 1st day of May A.D. 2024.

Jeff Landry
Governor of Louisiana