

**FIRE, WEATHER AND SMOKE SYNOPSIS**

**Weather and Fire Behavior Summary:** Change is in the air with the passage of a cold front expected to move across the area Sunday afternoon. With an expected increase in west winds this afternoon, fire activity is expected to pick up from what we have been seeing over the last several days.

**Smoke Summary:** Winds may pick up today and provide some relief from smoke. However smoke will continue to return to higher concentrations as it pools into the valleys tonight. **Seeley Lake's** air quality may "improve" for a few hours after noon with variable levels closer to **USG** and possibly **Moderate**. **Arlee** is expected to see **Moderate** conditions most of this afternoon with heavier smoke concentrations returning tonight and approaching **Unhealthy** levels. **Clearwater** is likely to see **Moderate** to conditions throughout most of the day with heaviest concentrations around **USG** briefly making an appearance late this evening before returning to **Moderate** for most of the night.

**NOTE: two additional monitoring sites have been established: Condon and Rainy Lake. Tomorrow's forecast will include these two new sites.**

**Air Quality Outlook (Smoke Related – PM2.5 only. Forecasts based on modeled smoke dispersion)**

Sites with air quality monitors (based on an average of hourly PM2.5 values for a 24-hr period, midnight to midnight)

Site	Yesterday	Today (8/12)	Tomorrow (8/13)	Smoke Notes for Today
Arlee	Unhealthy	USG	USG	Smoke levels may hover in <b>Moderate</b> to <b>USG</b> range for most of day. Late tonight will see levels approaching <b>Unhealthy</b> .
Seeley Lake	Very Unhealthy	Unhealthy	Unhealthy	Better air quality (i.e. <b>USG</b> range) possible between noon and late afternoon. <b>Hazardous</b> tonight.
Clearwater	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	<b>Moderate</b> conditions for most of the day. Heavier concentrations late evening approaching <b>USG</b> . <b>Moderate</b> most of tonight.

Disclaimer: Conditions may change quickly. These predictions are based on anticipated weather and fire activity.

**USG** – Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

Check out these links for additional information including wildfire smoke and your health.

Montana Department of Environmental Quality:

<http://svc.mt.gov/deq/todaysair/>

Health Effect Categories and Visibility:

<http://deq.mt.gov/air/FireUpdates/BreakpointsRevised>

CDC – Protect Yourself from Wildfire Smoke

<https://www.cdc.gov/features/wildfires/index.html>

ArcGIS Wildfire Maps:

<https://tinyurl.com/yacdza fh>

Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good	None
Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>reduce</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>avoid all</b> physical outdoor activity.
Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.