



Northeast Ohio Ozone Action Day Program

2004 Mid-Summer Update

Cool Temperatures Have Resulted In One Declared Ozone Action Day

The **Ozone Action Day's** Tenth Season kicked off June 8th with mild and dry weather conditions. These conditions continued with some rain through June into early July, with June 8th being the only **Ozone Action Day** being declared in Northeast Ohio. At this point last season, the OAD season had already experienced 5 Ozone Action Days.

2004 OAD Season Highlights

The program has certainly experienced a change of pace this season. Cloud cover and strong winds along with wet weather conditions. This year's average temperatures have been cooler in comparison to 2003 and significantly cooler than 2002. The considerably low number of Ozone Action Days can be attributed to this year's stormy weather.

As stated earlier, there has been one Ozone Action Day to date. The date was:

☀ June 8

This Ozone Action Day was declared because monitor readings were expected to exceed the 85 ppb (parts per billion) on the US EPA's Air Quality Index standard, but did not. In contrast, monitors exceeded forecasted expectations and the 85ppb concentration standard on the following days:

- ☀ May 12
- ☀ May 13
- ☀ June 7
- ☀ July 2
- ☀ July 3
- ☀ August 2
- ☀ August 3

Ozone levels of 85 ppb are considered unhealthy for children, elderly and those individuals with respiratory conditions.

2004 OAD Outreach

Staff has established a "Sign Up On-Line" Internet feature on the Ozone

Action Program (OAD) web page. This feature allows the public and interested stakeholders to sign up to receive free email or fax alerts when an ozone action day has been declared. A link is provided at www.noaca.org/oad.html

In addition, staff has focused on reaching out to healthcare representatives in county and city health departments, hospitals, local businesses, and other public organizations. This outreach included sending out and personally delivering thousands of newly developed OAD brochures.

Other staff activities include:

- Addressing the Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign
- Sponsoring the Ohio Lung Association's Clean Air Challenge
- Revising traffic radio spots

What's New for the OAD Program?

The OAD program benefited from the volunteer services of Ms. Ms. Amy Wainright, Esq. Amy brought valuable expertise to the program; she previously worked at the City of Cleveland and with the New Mexico Environmental Projection Agency as an air quality attorney.

The program also benefited from the work of intern Jon Oswick. Jon is a senior at Cleveland State University's Maxine Goodman College of Urban Affairs.

Together, Amy and Jon provided helped to inform people of the real dangers of ground level Ozone.

Ozone Levels for 2004
Declared Ozone Action Days
(Unofficial Data)

Date	Regional Maximum 8-Hr Concentration PPB (parts per billion)	Number of Monitors over Standard (>85 ppb)	Forecasted Maximum Temperature
May 12	88	1	83
May 13	88	1	81
June 7	85	1	84
June 8	81	0	90
July 2	88	1	80
July 3	88	2	83
August 2	87	2	87
August 3	86	1	86

Other Program Highlights:

Staff is considering the possibility of a commercial on public access television, to help spread the word.

In addition, next year's OAD theme will be focused on automobile maintenance and air quality, which means reaching out to automobile based companies and delivering an OAD program message of "Improve Air Quality by Maintaining Your Car."

Not Sure If An Ozone Action Day Has Been Declared?

Here's where you can find out:

For the most current information on unhealthy ozone levels, check today's air quality by visiting <http://www.noaca.org/oad>

You can also:

- Check your local newspaper for the ozone Action Day logo.
- Listen to morning and evening traffic and weather reports.
- Or contact NOACA at 216-241-2414.
- Go to www.noaca.org to learn more about Ozone Action Days and what you can do to help. Look for the Ozone logo.

For more information on current Ozone levels - You can check "Today's Air Quality" by following a link from the OAD web page and get a map similar to the one to the right.



Refresher: Here's How the OAD Program Works:

Each day, current air quality and weather forecast information is used to estimate the following day's Ozone levels.

If the Ozone estimates suggests that regional Ozone levels may be in the "unhealthy for sensitive groups" range or higher, a teleconference is held between NOACA, local air agencies, and the National Weather Service.

During the teleconference, the most recent forecast updates are discussed and a decision is made whether or not the following day will be an Ozone Action Day.

If an Ozone Action Day is declared, faxes, and/or e-mails are sent to participating agencies, interested individuals and the local media. The notices alert participants of the declaration, remind them of what they can do to help and provide updates on conditions during multi-day events.

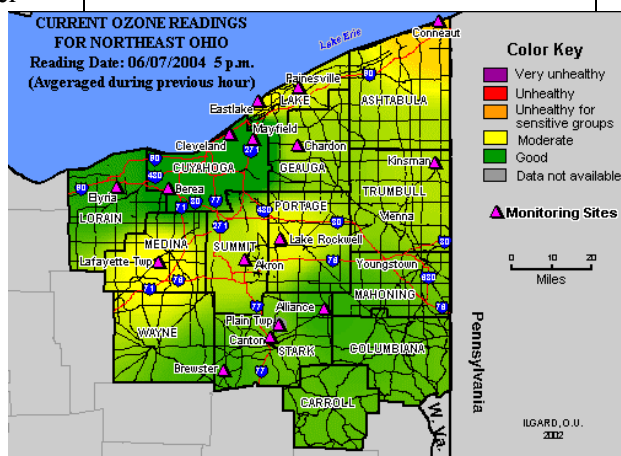
Do You Want to Be Notified When an OAD has Been Declared?

SIGN UP ON-LINE to receive email or fax notification of ozone alerts. A link to the on-line registration can be found at www.noaca.org/oad.html.

What Should We All Do?

There are many actions the public can take to help reduce the formation of ground-level ozone on Ozone Action Days. These actions include:

- Inform your neighbors, friends and family when an Ozone Day has been declared.
- Avoid yard maintenance with gas-powered equipment until after 7 PM.
- Avoid refueling your vehicle until after 7 PM
- **Carpool or RIDESHARE (1-800-825-RIDE)**
- Combine trips and eliminate unnecessary trips.
- Reduce power demand
- Take advantage of public transportation
- Walk or ride a bike for short trips
- Don't top off your gas tank and drive smoothly. Avoid "jack rabbit" starts.



"Today's Air Quality" Ozone Levels 7/7/04

Questions on the OAD Program?

Please contact Pamela Davis at 216.241.2414 or email her at pdavis@mpo.noaca.org