Northeast Ohio Ozone Action Day Program

2003 Season Rap-Up

Wet Weather Conditions Make for a Very Slow "Ozone Action Day" Season

The ninth season of the Northeast Ohio **Ozone Action Day (OAD)** program ended on September 15, 2003. Only **seven** days were declared Ozone Action Days this season. Last season, 21 OADs had been declared, tying the record number for the highest number of days in the program's history.

And, although this year's average temperatures were relatively similar in comparison to 2002 - the significant difference in the number of Ozone Action Days can be attributed to this year's wet weather.

From May through August, precipitation was recorded on an average of half of the days of each of the months. In May, precipitation was recorded on 19 days; in June, 17 days; in July, 17 days; and in August, 14 days. There was a total of 16.5 inches of rain recorded for the four-month period – more than double than the levels recorded last summer.

Check out the back of this update for more information on monthly weather conditions and resulting ozone levels.

As stated earlier seven Ozone Action Days to date. These dates include:

- June 24
- June 25
- June 26
- July 4
- July 5
- August 20
- August 21

Each of these Ozone Action Days was declared because monitor readings were expected to exceed the 85ppb (parts per billion) on the US EPA's Air Quality Index standard. On June 26th, July 4th and August 21st, levels did NOT exceed unhealthy levels as predicted.

In addition, monitors recorded exceedences of the 85 ppb unhealthy level on 3 additional days. On June 23rd, 3 monitors recorded elevated levels. On August 15th and August 25th, only one monitor recorded elevated levels.

Local Media on the Ball in 2003

In recent years, the local media have been an important partner in getting the message out regarding Ozone Action Days - this year was no exception.

Local newspapers, news channels, and radio stations were all quick to cover and relay Ozone Action Day information to the public.

Some media actually contacted NOACA prior to issuance of OAD declarations based upon predicted weather conditions – temperatures in the upper 80's, very little cloud cover and light or no wind.

The Plain Dealer once again championed the Ozone Action Day program. The Plain Dealer posted the OAD logo on the top of the Metro section on Ozone Action Days.

What's New for the OAD Program?

This year we have added a few new things to the program. The most significant has been a change of staffing personnel. Pamela Davis, Senior Environmental Planner, has replaced Bill Davis (no relation) as the Ozone Action Day (OAD) coordinator. Pam has a Masters in Urban Planning, Design and Development from Cleveland State University. She received her national certification as a Planner in 2000. She also has over ten years of environmental planning experience.

Want To Continue to Receive OAD Notifications Next Year?

Contact Pamela Davis at (216) 241-2414 Extension 284 or by email at **pdavis@mpo.noaca.org**.

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Ozone Levels & Weather Conditions for for Current 2003 Ozone Action Days

(Unofficial Data)

Month	Average Temperature (degrees F)	Maximum/ Minimum Temperatures	Number of 85 degrees or more	Total Monthly Precipitation (inches)	Number of Days with some Precipitation	Ozone Action Days	Date of Exceedance of .085 ppb	Number of Monitors over Standard (>.085 ppb)	Maximum 8-Hr Concentration ppb
May	57.8 F	80 F / 38 F	0	6.49	19 (out of 31)	-	-	0	0
June	66.9 F	91 F / 41 F	4	3.16	17 (out of 30)	24th 25th 26th	23rd 24th 25th	3 6 5 0	120 123 112 80
July	81.4 F	92 F / 54 F	9	4.89	17 (out of 31)	3rd 4th	3rd	8 0	99 73
August	82.2 F	92 F / 55 F	9	1.96	14 (out of 31)	20th 21st	15th 20th 25th	1 1 0 1	93 96 89 91
September	63.7 F	72.5 F / 54.8 F	0	6.02	15 (out of 30)	-	-	0	0

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