

NOACA AIR QUALITY PROGRAM UPDATE

**Air Quality Subcommittee
March 20, 2026**

ACTION REQUESTED

No action requested. This item is for information and presentation.

PREVIOUS ACTION

NOACA staff provides quarterly updates on NOACA's Air Quality Programs to the Subcommittee.

AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK

May 4th – 8th 2026

STAY AIR AWARE



AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK

May 4th – 8th 2026

Each spring, NOACA participates in Air Quality Awareness Week, a national outreach initiative led by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

During this week, NOACA highlights the importance of clean air through coordinated communications and social media outreach.



AIR QUALITY FORECASTING

Daily AQI Color	Levels of Concern	Values of Index	Description of Air Quality
Green	Good	0 to 50	Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Yellow	Moderate	51 to 100	Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Orange	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101 to 150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.
Red	Unhealthy	151 to 200	Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Purple	Very Unhealthy	201 to 300	Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.
Maroon	Hazardous	301 and higher	Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected.



Sign up at [Airnow.gov](https://airnow.gov) for alerts

AIR QUALITY TRENDS REPORT UPDATE

Updates from 2025 Air Quality Trends Report

- PM_{2.5} primary (annual) standard 12ug/m³ to 9ug/m³
- Summit County PM_{2.5} monitor 39-153-0023 discontinued
- Lake County PM₁₀ monitor 39-085-0008 discontinued

NOACA
Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency

2025 Air Quality Trends Report

April X, 2026



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COMMUTER CHOICE AWARDS

December 2025 Air Quality Subcommittee

The subcommittee advised NOACA to discontinue the Commuter Choice Awards and refocus staff time and resources on other aspects of NOACA's rideshare program that more directly support transportation demand management (TDM) goals.



Sunset

LEGO AIR SENSOR WORKSHOP

Partners

- **Cleveland Division of Air Quality**
 - Lesson Plan
- **Case Western Reserve University**
 - Sears Think Box
 - Electronic Components

A LEGO Air Sensor Workshop? Sign me up!



LEGO AIR SENSOR WORKSHOP



Procurement

Schools
Equipment



Curriculum Design

Lesson plan
Workshops
Test pilot with staff



Implementation

Deliver lesson plan
Guide students through LEGO sensor workshop building activity



Post Workshop Wrap Up

Reserve time for feedback and cleanup

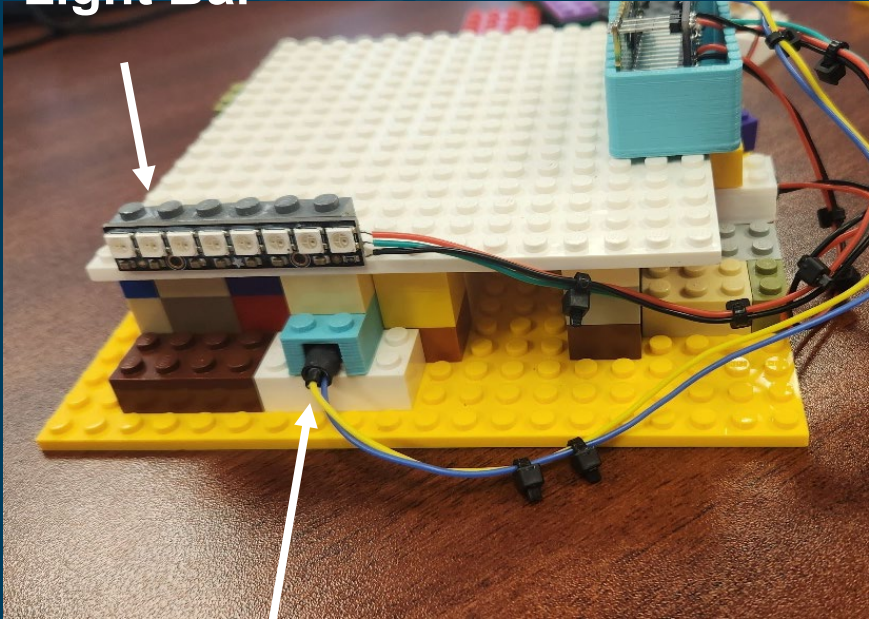
Evaluate timing efficiency to improve future workshops

On our way to better air quality days!

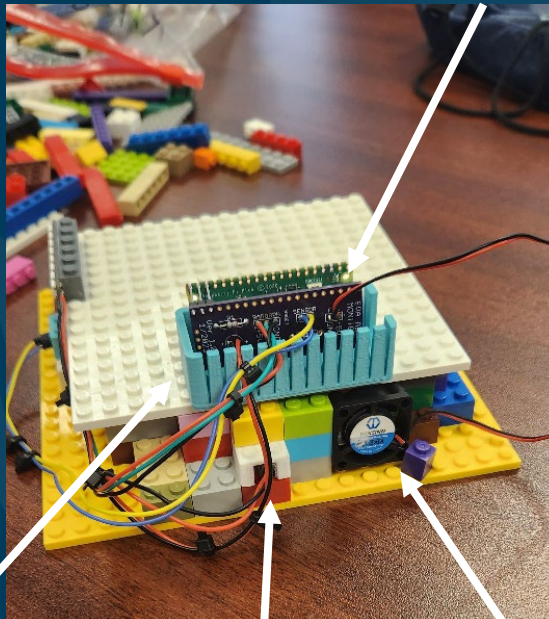


LEGO AIR SENSOR WORKSHOP

Light Bar



Circuit Board

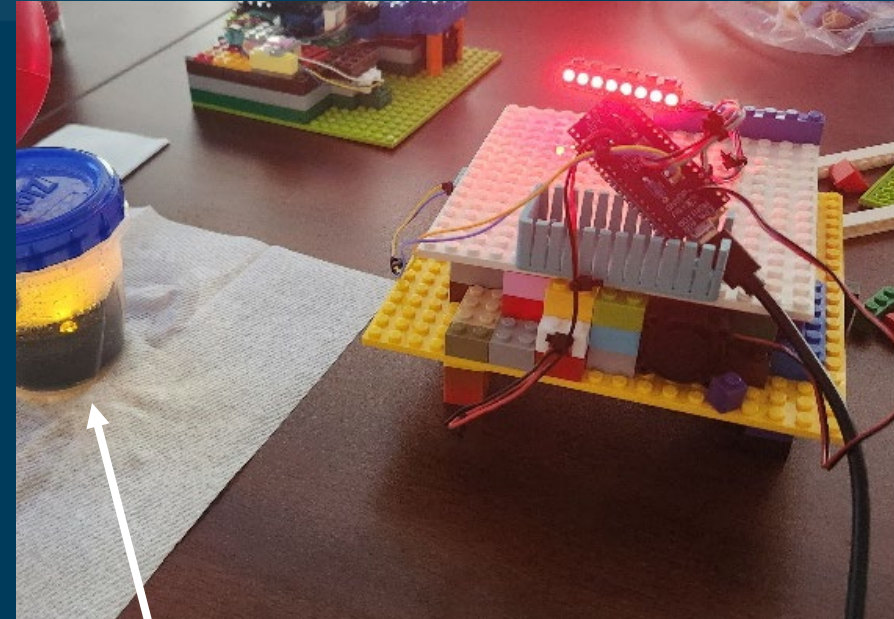


Light Sensor

Board Bracket

Light Source

Fan



Smoke Source

NEXT STEPS

- **NOACA will continue to demonstrate its commitment to proactive air quality management, public education, and regional collaboration aimed at achieving healthier air for all residents**
- **NOACA will provide quarterly updates to the Air Quality Subcommittee**



NOACA

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency

NOACA will **strengthen** regional cohesion, **preserve** existing infrastructure, and **build** a sustainable multimodal transportation system to **support** economic development and **enhance** quality of life in Northeast Ohio.