

OUTREACH AND INFORMATION DIVISION

Paul Almodóvar
Deputy Division Director



COMMUNITIES

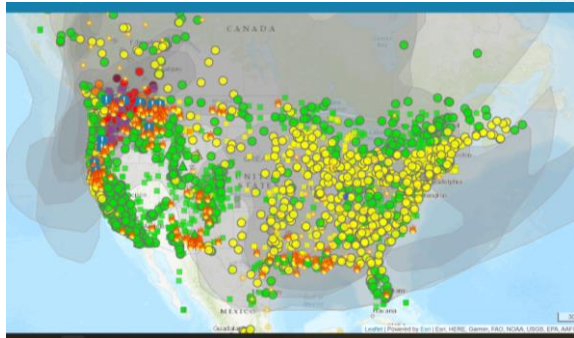


- Ensuring environmental justice, Tribal, and small business considerations are accounted for during the regulatory development process.
- Working with affected communities to build their capacity to engage in regulations that can address air pollution concerns.
- Evaluating socio-economic demographic data to recommend approaches for community outreach and engagement.
- Ensure EJ is appropriately considered in decisions and opportunities for engagement with communities are identified.

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

- Implementing provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act.
 - Climate Pollution Reduction Grants – ensuring there is meaningful engagement between grant recipients and low-income and disproportionately impacted communities.
 - EJ Block Grants – working with OEJECR to incorporate opportunities to fund activities that will reduce air pollution from residential heating using wood, oil, and propane.
 - Working with DOE as they implement other IRA programs/provisions.
 - Home Energy Rebate Program
 - Tax Credits





Fire and Smoke Map

- Washington Post named AirNow the “best all around” app for finding your AQI (June 7, 2023).
- Moved the AirNow system architecture to the cloud to handle increased traffic.
- Due to Canadian wildfire impacts over the summer, traffic to airnow.gov surged.
 - On June 8th, traffic reached 3.7 million users and over 12 million pageviews
- Enhancing the Fire and Smoke Map.

AirKnowledge

A partnership program of U.S. EPA



Size comparisons for PM particles

Some particles are emitted directly from a source, such as construction sites, unpaved roads, fields, smokestacks, or fires. However, most particles form in the atmosphere as a result of complex reactions of chemicals, such as sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide, which are pollutants emitted from power plants, industries and automobiles.

When compared to a human hair, you can see how small these particles really are!

CONTINUE

from BASC:198

- Air Pollution Basics curriculum is intended for newly hired air professionals.
 - Released BASC:198 Air Quality Management Under the CAA
- For the first three quarters of FY 2023 (Oct. 2022 through June 2023):
 - Completed 16 new or updated training products.
 - About 15,000 self-instructional trainings were completed within the AirKnowledge Learning Management System.
 - Almost 14,000 individuals visited the AirKnowledge website and viewed 91,000 web pages.
- With the regional MJOs, AirKnowledge helped hold 80 instructor-led classes reaching over 1600 students.



Electric heat pump



EPA certified wood heater

Burn Wise

Program of the U.S. EPA

“Burn the Right Wood, the Right Way, in the Right Appliance.”

- Burn Wise Goals:
 - Educate users on proper use of their wood burning devices.
 - Promote upgrades to cleaner burning technologies.
- Using IRA resources to provide opportunities for installing electric heat pumps
- Residential Wood Smoke Training Workshop (April, 2023)
 - Partnered with WESTAR
 - Attendees: EPA, state, local, tribes and Community-Based Organizations air quality professionals
 - 60 people attended in person and 100 on-line
 - Focused on heat pump installation & leveraging IRA funding

QUESTIONS

Contact Paul Almodóvar,
Deputy Division Director
Outreach and Information Division/OAQPS
Email: almodovar.paul@epa.gov