



Pima County Department of Environmental Quality

33 N. Stone Ave., Suit 700
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 243-7400
www.deq.pima.gov

Got Dust? Keep it Down!

Fall 2007, Volume 4, Issue 1

The Dirt on Dust

The *Dirt on Dust* newsletter provides information about regulations and airborne dust control methods to protect the health of our community and keep Pima County in compliance with national air quality health standards. Please share this information with your co-workers and/or employees in your company newsletters, safety meetings, payroll enclosures or e-mail distribution for company-wide awareness of airborne dust issues as they relate to construction activity.

PDEQ Offers On-Line Activity Permit Applications

For your convenience, you can obtain an Air Quality Activity Permit from PDEQ without the hassle of visiting our downtown office. Visit our website at www.deq.pima.gov/air/SubmitPermit.htm to complete the application, making sure to include a valid e-mail address. The application form includes fields for you to submit information about the permit holder, contact, site location, and permit specifications. The permit fee will be calculated while you're filling out the form according to what activities you list in the permit specifications section. Once you submit your application, PDEQ will review it for accuracy and e-mail you a confirmation of approval.

If you have a deferred account, your account will automatically be debited and your permit will be e-mailed to you promptly. If you do not have a deferred account, your permit will not be valid until we receive payment. Once we receive payment, your permit will be e-mailed to you. If you would like to set up a deferred account, please contact PDEQ's accounting department at 520-740-3340.

You may also continue to obtain Air Quality Activity Permits in person by visiting PDEQ's Air Program downtown at 150 West Congress Street, Suite 109 as of June 16, 2009. Asbestos NESHAP Notification and Permit Activity Applications must also be filed with the Air Program at the 150 West Congress Street location.

Changes to Permit Fees and Options

As of July 2007, Multiple Activity Permits are now offered. A Multiple Activity Permit covers all applicable dust-producing activities at a single project site over an acre without having to specify the amounts for each individual activity such as road construction, land stripping, trenching, and/or blasting. The fee schedule associated with these permits is calculated according to the total amount of acreage you are disturbing regardless of the type of activity.

Blasting fees have also been changed from \$18 plus \$3.53 per day of blasting, to a flat fee of \$25.00. Visit our website at www.deq.pima.gov/air/FugitiveDustProgram.htm to view the Air Quality Activity Permit fee schedule.

Remember, the Focus is on Keeping the Dust Down

Keeping dust down is not only necessary to avoid Pima County ordinance violations, but is important for the health and safety of equipment operators and that of our community. Be a good neighbor. Do your part to help **Keep Dust Down**.

Please Contact Us to Save Taxpayer \$\$ or for More Info

- Save Taxpayer Money: Receive articles by e-mail**
Send us your e-mail address for electronic distribution (saves time, paper, and postage)
- Schedule a free presentation**
- Request more information on health effects, regulations, control methods**
- Remove yourself from distribution list**



PDEQ, 33 N Stone, #700, Tucson, AZ 85701 • karen.wilhelmsen@deq.pima.gov • 243-7400

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Check out PDEQ's
dust info on-line at
[www.deq.pima.gov/air/
FugitiveDustProgram.htm](http://www.deq.pima.gov/air/FugitiveDustProgram.htm)

Airborne Dust is Particulate Matter Pollution

Particulate Matter is a criteria air pollutant in Pima County that is of great concern due to its serious health effects. Title 17 of the Pima County Code states that any permittee or person must take reasonable precautions to prevent excessive amounts of particulate matter from becoming airborne.

Construction activity is one source of airborne dust. Any type of earthmoving, hauling, and driving activity, as well as storage piles and unstabilized soil surfaces can contribute to unhealthy levels of particulates. Along with other sources, contractors, sub-contractors, developers, and construction workers need to take reasonable action to control airborne dust on their work sites and during activities in which they engage.

Smoke School Training

Arizona Smoke School, LLC

Fred Ellis 480-226-0945
www.arizonasmokeschool.com

ASU/ADEQ

[www.azdeq.gov/envirom/air/compliance/
smoke.html](http://www.azdeq.gov/envirom/air/compliance/smoke.html) (480) 727-1322

Carl Koontz Associates

www.carlkoontzassociates.com/home.html
615-889-9494

The Air Section has Moved
We encourage you to set up a
deferred account to obtain your
Air Quality Activity Permits.
Call 740-3340 for more info.

How Does Particulate Matter Affect Us?

Particulate matter (PM) is harmful to human health and can cause:

- Eye, nose, and throat irritations
- Reduced lung function
- Chest pain and heart attacks
- Increased hospitalizations
- Stroke
- Difficulty breathing
- Asthma attacks
- Weakened immune system
- Increased absences from work and school
- Premature death (by 1-8 years)

PM affects all individuals, especially children, the elderly, and people with existing heart and respiratory disease. It is also a public nuisance which can damage property and reduce quality of life. PM can reduce visibility, interfering with beautiful scenic views, and can create a hazard while driving.

Please, take reasonable precautions to Keep Dust Down!