



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

NEWS RELEASE

Office of Communications
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 6, 2012

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Colorado River Valley added to daily air quality forecasting

DENVER — Scientists in the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Air Pollution Control Division now are forecasting daily air quality for the Colorado River Valley region. The daily forecast is the latest in an ongoing effort to help spread air quality forecasts throughout Colorado.

"This is an important step forward in our air quality forecasting," said Will Allison, Air Pollution Control Division director. "We've been working hard, as resources permit, to extend our reach beyond the Front Range to serve a number of areas in Colorado. Many of our local partners in the Colorado River Valley region expressed enthusiasm about a daily forecast. We're pleased now to have the ability to do so."

The Colorado River Valley air quality forecasting region comprises most of Garfield County (including Battlement Mesa, Glenwood Springs, New Castle, Parachute, Rifle and Silt) and northeastern Mesa County (including Collbran and De Beque).

The division maintains "real time" air quality monitors, which make daily forecasting in the region possible, in Rifle and Parachute.

The division's air quality forecasts are posted on the division's air quality data website at www.colorado.gov/airquality/colorado_summary.aspx as well as the national AIRNow website at www.airnow.gov.

Should conditions warrant, the division posts air quality health advisories and Action Days on its Facebook page and Twitter feed.

“The social media outreach is another exciting recent development,” Allison said. “If residents choose to ‘like’ us on Facebook or ‘follow’ us on Twitter, they can directly track our air quality health advisories as they are issued.”

The division forecasts air quality conditions every day of the year for a number of regions in the state. In addition to being available on the division’s Website and social media sites, advisories are sent to a variety of stakeholders via email and, in some areas, regularly updated telephone hotlines.

Other air quality forecast regions include Colorado Springs, the Denver-Boulder metro area, Fort Collins, Grand Junction and Greeley.

The Air Pollution Control Division’s Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/cdphe.apcd. The Twitter site is at twitter.com/cdpheapcd.