Beat: Health

Special Air Quality Statement

Annapolis, Kings and Cumberland Counties

Halifax, Nova Scotia, 24.08.2025, 12:37 Time

USPA NEWS - Be vigilant for symptoms: coughing, a scratchy throat, irritated sinuses, shortness of breath, chest pain, headaches, or asthma symptom exacerbation. When extreme heat and wildfire smoke coincide, prioritize cooling protocols.

Air quality has been compromised due to the West Dalhousie Wildfires, and poor conditions are expected to prevail throughout Annapolis County today. This may cause irritation to the eyes, nose, and throat, as well as shortness of breath, coughing, headaches, and potential cardiac complications. Groups at higher risk include children, older adults, and individuals with pre-existing conditions such as asthma, respiratory issues, or cardiovascular disease. Symptoms may become more severe.

Sunday, August 24th,13:09: Over the past 24 hours the WestDalhousie/Long Lake wildfire has showed intense and increasing fire behavior. The fire remains uncontrolled and is actively spreading satellite suggests this could be happening quite rapidly. Crossover conditions are anticipated this afternoon. Wind is driving the fire in multiple directions, including towards the West Dalhousie Road. All efforts are being made to save homes. Ground crews report increasing wind speeds, and all sprinkler systems along the West Dalhousie Road are activated.

Due to the fire's approach, the command center has been relocated to Bridgetown in the interest of safety.

Heavy machinery is deployed on the flanks, with ground crews and air support remaining on site. Local volunteer fire departments are present, along with away departments from Italy Cross, Dayspring, New Ross, and Quinan, which are operating tankers to protect homes along the West Dalhousie Road.

This is a rapidly developing situation. Further updates to follow as the day progresses.

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