

What You Can Do

Make a big difference in helping reduce air pollution. You can:

- ✓ Conserve energy and choose to use energy efficient products.
- ✓ Use public transportation, form a car pool, bike or walk.
- ✓ Keep your car properly maintained; it improves air quality (and saves you money).
- ✓ Compost or mulch autumn leaves instead of burning them.
- ✓ Reuse and Recycle whatever you can.
- ✓ Support environmentally friendly businesses and industries.
- ✓ Report air pollution problems.



BE AN INFORMED CITIZEN

Learn as much as you can about air pollution and be an active participant in helping to keep the air clean.

THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (MDEQ) WILL NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP ON THE BASIS OF RACE, SEX, RELIGION, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, COLOR, MARITAL STATUS, DISABILITY OR POLITICAL BELIEFS. QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE MDEQ OFFICE OF PERSONNEL SERVICES, PO BOX 30473, LANSING MI 48909.

Learn More About Our Air Quality

The DEQ hosts an information rich Internet Web site. Obtain information about current air monitoring levels, consent orders, rules and regulations, publications; permit applications, public meetings, and much more.

INTERNET ADDRESS

www.michigan.gov/deqair

When air quality is expected to be unhealthy, you can get an e-mail or text phone message. Select the “**MIair**” icon for air quality notification details and to enroll in **EnviroFlash**.

How To Reach Us

Michigan Dept of Environmental Quality
Air Quality Division
Constitution Hall, 3rd Floor North
525 West Allegan Street
P.O. Box 30260
Lansing, Michigan 48909
(517) 373-7023

or, contact the DEQ Office in your area:

Bay City	Cadillac	Detroit
Gaylord	Grand Rapids	Jackson
Lansing	Kalamazoo	Warren
	Upper Peninsula	

Clean Air For Michigan



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DEQ Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

DEQ Air Quality Division
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

What We Do

Michigan's efforts to control air pollution have made our state a leader in the battle for cleaner air. Michigan was a front-runner in recognizing the potential harm of air pollution and then doing something to prevent it.

In 1965, an inspired state legislature passed the Michigan Air Pollution Act which thrust the Great Lakes state into the air pollution control arena even before the Federal Clean Air Act required all states to combat dirty air. Since then, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Division has overseen state and local efforts to enhance our air pollution control program.

The Air Quality Division's mission is to regulate sources of air pollutants in order to minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment. To succeed, the following GOALS have been set:

- Meet and maintain federal and state air quality standards using the best available technology and cost-effective controls
- Limit emissions of hazardous and toxic pollutants
- Keep the public informed about air quality conditions



We Keep Michigan's Air Clean By....

- ◆ Developing and implementing a comprehensive plan for controlling sources which are emitting significant amounts of air pollutants;
- ◆ Conducting continuous monitoring of air pollution levels through a network of air quality sampling stations;
- ◆ Investigating complaints and by conducting routine inspections of pollution sources;
- ◆ Reviewing proposed new construction or modification of air pollution sources through a comprehensive permit system;
- ◆ Conducting public hearings, reviewing new regulations, and taking legal action against violations of the state air quality regulations.

What's In The Air?

OZONE: A colorless, pungent gas, ground-level ozone is formed by a reaction of sunlight and gaseous chemicals. These chemicals are emitted from automobile exhausts, painting operations, solvent usage, gasoline and power plants.

PARTICULATES: Small particles of solid or liquid matter suspended in the air or in an emission. Particles may be smoke, spray, dust and fumes. Sources include various industrial and manufacturing operations; power plants; automobiles and diesel engines; woodburning; and leaf burning. Particulate emissions from Michigan's stationary sources (industrial and manufacturing operations, power plants) have declined by more than 85% since 1974.

NITROGEN DIOXIDE: A yellow-brown gas emitted into the air during combustion of all types of fuels. Sources include automobiles, power plants, and certain chemical manufacturing operations. Nitrogen dioxide emissions from power plants have been reduced by 85%.

SULFUR DIOXIDE: A heavy, pungent, colorless gas formed when coal, fuel oil, or any fuel containing sulfur is burned. Fuel burning plants, certain chemical plants, metal processing, and trash burning are its major sources. A 65% reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions from Michigan's stationary sources has been realized since 1974.

CARBON MONOXIDE: A colorless, odorless, poisonous gas produced by incomplete combustion of substances containing carbon. The main source is automobile exhaust.

LEAD: A metallic element that may be released in the form of tiny particles from smelters and automobile exhausts. Michigan residents now use unleaded fuel, so it's not a problem.

TOXICS: Other compounds found in the air ... such as dioxins and furans emitted from incinerators; metals from plating facilities; and organic gases from chemical processes, painting operations and even woodstoves.