

AIR MONITORING NETWORK PLAN FOR 2025: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Air Quality Division (AQD), has developed the Ambient Air Monitoring Network Plan for 2025 (Network Plan). The Network Plan describes current and historical changes to regulations, and the current ambient (outdoor) air monitoring being conducted statewide, as well as any proposed changes for the next calendar year. Development of the Network Plan is a requirement of the Federal Clean Air Act.

The purpose of ambient air monitoring is to measure air pollutants over a long period of time to ensure areas of the state are meeting air quality standards, to identify pollution trends, support air pollution forecasting, provide real-time air quality information, assess community exposure, and to be used in air quality models. Ambient air monitors are **not** used to determine if specific industrial sources are in compliance with air permits or meeting state and federal regulations. Industrial compliance is assessed through inspections, stack testing, and other types of review and investigations.

The AQD operates more than 45 stationary (semi-permanent) air monitoring locations throughout the state with specialized equipment to measure the levels of certain pollutants in the ambient air. Ambient air is defined as the air that the public breathes where we live, work, and play. It is not a measurement of specific pollution from industrial properties. The monitoring network measures:

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for “criteria pollutants”	Non-criteria pollutants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ozone; • Carbon monoxide; • Sulfur dioxide; • Nitrogen dioxide; • Lead; and • Fine particulates (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air toxics (including volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, carbonyl compounds, and trace metals); • Black carbon; • Speciated particulate matter (chemicals in the particulate matter); and • Meteorological parameters such as wind speed and wind direction.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has requirements for the number of air monitoring devices and the type of pollutants measured based on several factors including population census data. Each year, the Network Plan is written to describe how the monitoring network is meeting federal requirements for each of the criteria pollutants. Each criteria pollutant has a dedicated chapter in the Plan. The Network Plan also describes any changes that are anticipated in the next calendar year. Changes could include adding new air monitoring locations or removing an existing location. It could include adding or removing pollutant measurements at an existing location.

The Network Plan is a technical document and is required by federal regulation to contain specific information. The USEPA reviews this Plan and provides an approval if the monitoring network is meeting all of the federal requirements.

Changes to the network for 2025:

- A new site in Northeast Detroit to measure PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, black carbon, and air toxics. Anticipated to be functional in fall 2024 or early 2025.
- A new site in East Detroit to measure PM_{2.5} and air toxics. Anticipated to be functional in the fall of 2025.
- Discontinue every 3-day filter based PM_{2.5} sampler in SW Detroit since a continuous sampler is being operated at that location.
- Special sampling for volatile organic compounds for 6-months in Kalamazoo and Flint.
- Enhanced ozone monitoring parameters at the Holland site to evaluate ozone moderate non-attainment.

Questions about the ambient air monitoring network can be directed to:
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