



**Kathleen Cuddy, MPH  
Public Health Director  
Cayuga County Health Department  
8 Dill St.  
Auburn, NY 13021**



**For Immediate Release: Tuesday, June 6, 2023**

## **Air Quality Alert for Cayuga County**

Cayuga County Health Department is alerting the community to a poor air quality advisory in effect today, Tuesday, June 6, 2023, through midnight (12:00AM Wednesday, June 7, 2023).

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has issued an Air Quality Health Advisory for Fine Particulates, due to the wildfires in Quebec, Canada. The outdoor air quality level for Cayuga County is scaling above 100 on the Air Quality Index (AQI) scale. The higher the AQI value, the greater the health concern.

When air quality levels are elevated, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) recommends that individuals limit strenuous outdoor physical activity (such as walking instead of running) to reduce their risk of adverse health effects. People who may be especially sensitive to the effects of elevated levels of pollutants include the very young, older adults, and those with pre-existing respiratory problems such as asthma or heart disease. Those with related healthcare concerns should consider contacting their healthcare provider.

If you can limit your time outdoors during this advisory, you are encouraged to do so. If you are spending time outdoors, high-quality masks, such as N95 and KN95 masks, can be worn outdoors to reduce the inhalation of fine particles from the air. During this time you may want to keep your windows and doors closed to avoid letting outdoor air inside of your home. Use air purifiers or air conditioning units with high-efficiency filters to improve indoor air quality if possible.

For more information regarding the air quality advisory, please visit the NYSDEC website: <https://on.ny.gov/nyaqi> or call the Air Quality Hotline at 800-535-1345.

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