

AIR QUALITY FLAG PROGRAM

Newsletter

EPA Administrator Raises Air Quality Flag

In this issue:

- EPA Administrator Raises Air Quality Flag
- 2016 Spring Challenge
- Current Stats
- Spanish Website
- Which Flag Do I Fly?
- Fly a Flag at Your Workplace!



On May 26, EPA Administrator, Gina McCarthy, helped students raise an orange flag signaling one of the first ozone action days in DC this year. School-Within- School @ Goding was the first school in the nation’s capital to adopt the Air Quality Flag Program. The Administrator and the Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, Janet McCabe, gave remarks to an audience of students, teachers, parents and distinguished guests. Nurse Jade Bland-Slaffey was recognized for her outstanding efforts implementing the flag program by her Principal, John Burst.

2016 AQFP Spring Challenge

The 2016 AQFP Spring Challenge was indeed a success. There were 104 new registrations during the four-week period, which was an impressive increase in such a short time. Thank you to all who participated and helped our numbers grow.

CONGRATULATIONS to the top three Regions!

1. EPA Region 9 including AZ DEQ (64 new registrations)
2. EPA Region 6 (12 new registrations)
3. EPA Region 4 including US DOT and SC DHEC (10 new registrations)

MUCH APPRECIATION to those who participated...

AQFP SPRING CHALLENGE 2016			
REGION	AGENCY	CONTACT	TITLE
Region 2	US EPA	Becky Ofrane	Children's Environmental Health
Camden, NJ	Camden Schools	Marianne Paoli	Summer School Nurse
Region 4	US EPA	Heidi LeSane	Asthma/Indoor Air Coordinator
Frankfort, KY	US DOT/FHA	Bernadette Dupont	Transportation Specialist
Columbia, SC	SCDHEC	Leslie Coolidge	AQ Programs Implementation
Region 6	US EPA	Paula Selzer	Children's Environmental Health
Region 9	US EPA	Eric Canteenwala	Healthy Schools Coordinator
Phoenix, AZ	AZ DEQ	Julie Finke	Children's Environmental Health

Current Stats

EPA’s Air Quality Flag Program currently has 850 schools and organizations participating. The program is benefiting over one million individuals nationwide.

Approximately 500,000 students, teachers and staff see an air quality flag each day reminding them of the air quality conditions and the actions they can take if the air is unhealthy.

Businesses, organizations and government entities like fire stations, health departments and museums are reaching more than 600,000 citizens in the US by displaying the flags and raising air quality awareness.

Programa de banderines sobre la calidad del aire

Conozca la calidad del aire y proteja así su salud



The Air Quality Flag Program Website: In Spanish!

We now have a complete Spanish-language version of the AQFP website, allowing us to reach a larger part of the US population.

The translation was in response to Region 9's Making a Visible Difference in Communities project in the Imperial Valley to reach senior centers with the flag program. Many thanks to EPA's Office of External Affairs & Environmental Education for contributing funds to this effort.

Which Flag do I Fly?

Not sure which flag you should raise today? Go to www.airnow.gov/flag and click on "Which Flag do I Fly?" above the colored AQI flags. Type in your zip code and it will automatically fill in the flag color for your area!

Zip Code:

Your City	Your City
	
Today's Air Quality Forecast 07/30/2015	Tomorrow's Air Quality Forecast 07/31/2015
Ozone <input type="radio"/>	Ozone <input type="radio"/>
PM2.5 <input type="radio"/>	PM2.5 <input type="radio"/>

Is Your Workplace Flying an Air Quality Flag?

Consider the benefits of flying an air quality flag at your workplace. You can start the process by talking with your facilities department about the program. EPA Region 4 recently became the first EPA office to implement the flag program at the Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center. They are also using the [widget](#) to display the air quality forecast on the Region 4 intranet site. We hope everyone will follow EPA Region 4's example and begin flying an air quality flag at your office soon!



Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center



DePaolo Middle School, Southington, CT

Flag Team

Donna Rogers, Beth Landis, Melissa Payne, Miki Wayland, Ellen Wildermann, Danielle Johnson and Tonya Blatcher