

Washington Wildfire Smoke Employer Training Checklist

This list will help ensure that you and your team are prepared for wildfire smoke conditions. The following items were adapted from L&I's new Washington Wildfire Smoke emergency rule.



- **1. CHECK L&I WEBSITE.**
 - The latest rules and resources will be posted here: [lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/wildfire-smoke](https://www.lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/wildfire-smoke)
<https://www.lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/wildfire-smoke>
 - Download this template for an Accident Prevention Program Addendum: https://www.lni.wa.gov/safety-health/_docs/WildfireSmokeAPPAddendum.docx
- **2. IDENTIFY HARMFUL EXPOSURES. Employers are required to monitor air quality before each shift and periodically throughout the day. Air quality data can be checked using any of the following resources:**
 - airnow.gov (get NowCast AQI air quality where you are)
 - enviwa.ecology.wa.gov (interactive map of WA air monitoring network)
 - tools.airfire.org (links to federal wildfire & air quality tools)
 - enviroflash.info (receive notifications about air quality changes)
 - wasmoke.blogspot.com (one-stop-shop for WA smoke information)
 - airnow.gov/airnow-mobile-app/ (download EPA AirNow app)
- **3. COMMUNICATE HAZARDS. Employers must establish and implement a system for communicating wildfire smoke hazards when: (1) two consecutive NowCast AQI readings for PM2.5 are 69+ or (2) one NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 151+. The system should:**
 - Include protective measures that can be taken against wildfire smoke exposure
 - Encourage employees to report worsening air quality and adverse symptoms
- **4. INFORM & TRAIN. Employers must provide all employees and supervisors information about wildfire smoke before work that exposes the employee to an AQI of 69+. Employers**

must describe in their Accident Prevention Plan how they will provide supervisors with the required training.

- **Employee training:**

- L&I training videos: wisha-training.lni.wa.gov/training/articulate/WildfireSmokeSafety/story.html

- **Supervisor training must include employee training along with procedures supervisors must follow:**

- To implement WAC 296-62-085; Wildfire Smoke lni.wa.gov/rulemaking-activity/AO21-26/2126CR103EAdoption.pdf
- If an employee exhibits adverse symptoms of wildfire smoke exposure
- For transporting employees to an emergency medical service provider if necessary

- **5. RESPOND TO EXPOSURE SYMPTOMS. Employers must:**

- Monitor employees displaying adverse exposure symptoms to determine whether medical attention is necessary
- Allow employees who show signs of injury or illness to seek medical treatment without any retaliation
- Have a plan made in advance for prompt medical treatment of employees in the event of serious injury or illness

- **6. IMPLEMENT EXPOSURE CONTROLS. Employers are:**

- Encouraged to implement exposure controls when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 69+
- Required to implement exposure controls when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 151+

- **Some example controls include:**

- Providing enclosed buildings or structures with filtered air
- Providing portable HEPA filters in enclosed areas
- Relocating work to a location with a lower concentration of PM2.5
- Changing work schedules to a time with a lower concentration of PM2.5
- Reducing work intensity
- Providing more rest periods

- **7. PROVIDE RESPIRATORY PROTECTION. Employers are:**

- Encouraged to provide respirators at no cost to employees when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 69+
- Required to provide respirators at no cost to employees when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 151+

- **8. RESOURCES.**

- Note: AQI 69 = WAQA 101 = 20.5µg/m³
- Note: AQI 151 = WAQA 173 = 55.5µg/m³
- For more resources please visit the PNASH wildfire smoke safety website: deohs.washington.edu/pnash/wildfiresmoke

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