



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

*"To protect and improve  
the health and environment  
of the people of Colorado."*

# NEWS

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Wintertime High Pollution Advisory Program Concludes; No Health-Based Standards Violated During 2005-2006 Winter Season**

**Denver** – Air quality monitors recorded compliance with federal and state health-based air pollution standards throughout the seven-county Denver-Boulder metropolitan area this winter, according to preliminary statistics from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Air Pollution Control Division.

The 2005-2006 High Pollution Advisory Program ends tonight under a blue advisory issued this afternoon at 4 p.m. The High Pollution Season runs each year from Nov. 1 through March 31.

No violations of federal and state health-based standards for carbon monoxide, ozone and two different particle pollution classifications were recorded during the five-month season.

Air quality meteorologists issued 95 blue advisories and 57 red advisories during the season. During the 2004-2005 High Pollution Season, 99 blue advisories and 53 red advisories were issued. Typically, about 2/3 of the advisories issued during the five-month-long season are blue.

Red advisories mean either poor air pollution levels or impaired visibility conditions exist or are expected during the 24-hour advisory period. Red advisories restrict residential burning to approved devices only, and residents also are urged to limit driving and use alternate transportation.

Blue advisories predict good or moderate air quality conditions. They require no action, although residents are encouraged to limit residential burning and explore alternate transportation use whenever possible.

Forecasters now have a break from the daily task of predicting air quality until June 1, when the summertime Voluntary Ozone Reduction Program, a cooperative effort of the Regional Air Quality Council and the Department of Public Health and Environment's Air Pollution Control Division, is slated to begin. The summertime program operates much the same as the wintertime one, with an eye toward ground-level ozone pollution instead of carbon monoxide, particulate matter and visibility readings.

Instead of red and blue advisories, forecasters issue Ozone Action Alerts during the summer on days considered conducive to moderate or unhealthy ozone levels.