# Air Quality Forecast and Dispersion Outlook of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania for 3/7/23

Air Quality Forecast: This is the daily forecasted Air Quality Index (AQI) for each area provided by the PA Department of Environmental Protection. The AQI is based on PM2.5 or Ozone, whichever is forecasted to be higher.

Forecast Period	Pittsburgh Area	Liberty-Clairton Area	
Today Tuesday 3/7/23	PM2.5 <b>Good</b> 32 AQI	PM2.5 <b>Good</b> 26 AQI	
Tomorrow Wednesday 3/8/23	PM2.5 <b>Good</b> 32 AQI	PM2.5 <b>Good</b> 28 AQI	

### **Today's Forecast:**

Tuesday will start with plenty of clouds and a snow shower, then some sunshine will return by the afternoon. Windy with strong vertical and horizontal mixing from a northwesterly direction bringing low PM2.5 values.

See Page 2 for the Air Quality Index guide

Data provided by the PA Department of Environmental Protection

ACHD Air Dispersion 36-Hour Forecast: This is the dispersion forecast for Allegheny County starting from this morning through tomorrow afternoon. The atmospheric dispersion index is a rating of the atmosphere's ability to transport pollution away from its source and is based on emissions and weather. Better atmospheric dispersion can improve air quality.

Forecast Period		Atmospheric Dispersion Index	Surface Inversion Strength	Wind (dir mph)
	Morning	63 – Good		N 10-15
Today –	Afternoon	70 – Good		N-NW 15-20 Gusts 25
	Evening	30 — Fair		NW 15
Tonight	Overnight	29 — Fair		NW 10-15
	Morning	54 – Generally Good		N 10
Tomorrow –	Afternoon	62 – Good		NW 10

See page 2 for the Atmospheric Dispersion Index guide and the daily Surface Temperature Inversion Report.

#### **ACHD Remarks:**

Data provided by the National Weather Service (NWS) Fire Weather Planning Forecast and PIT NWS Products

Prepared by: KLC Date: 3/7/23 Time: 08:30 am 1

Guide to the Air Quality Index (AQI)					
Color	Description	Meaning	AQI		
Red	Unhealthy	Everyone should limit exertion outdoors.	151 - 200		
Orange	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Sensitive people should limit exertion outdoors.	101 - 150		
Yellow	Moderate	Extremely sensitive people may wish to limit outdoor exertion.	51 - 100		
Green	Good	No health impacts are expected in this range.	0 - 50		

Guide to the Atmospheric Dispersion Index						
Very Poor	Poor	<b>Generally Poor</b>	Fair	Generally Good	Good	Very Good
1 - 6	7 - 12	13 - 20	21 - 40	41 - 60	61 - 100	> 100

## **ACHD Surface Temperature Inversion Report:**

This is the 7 AM surface-based temperature inversion report for Allegheny County.

This morning's inversion of  $\underline{--^{\circ}C}$  with a depth of  $\underline{--m}$  is estimated to break at  $\underline{--}$ .

This inversion can be characterized as: None / Slight / Weak / Moderate / Strong.

There is no inversion above  $\sim 1000$  meters reported.

## What does the Surface Temperature Inversion Report mean?

A surface temperature inversion is a weather pattern that stops mixing of the air near the ground, and pollution released into the air tends to remain at higher concentrations.

Surface temperature inversion conditions include how strong the surface inversion is (in °C), how high the inversion is above the surface (in meters), and when the inversion is expected to break (in Eastern Standard Time). Also included is whether an upper-level inversion or inversions exist, starting at about 1,000 meters.

#### <u>Surface Temperature Inversion Characterization</u>

0-0.9 C°: Slight 1-2.9 C°: Weak 3-4.9 C°: Moderate ≥5 C°: Strong



