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For immediate release
Contact: Sheila Storm, (520) 792-1093

PAG, Pima Co. Dept. of Environmental Quality team up for new ‘Clean Air’ campaign

Ground-level ozone is a pollutant that can cause lung irritation, wheezing and coughing when it reaches high levels. Children, older adults and people with chronic lung diseases are most susceptible to its harmful effects.

Although ozone is not directly emitted from vehicles, paints and industrial sources, it forms when the chemicals released from these sources combine on hot, sunny days. Our ozone levels currently are within the federal health standards. However, in summer months, ozone levels in Pima County can occasionally become unhealthy.

This summer, Pima Association of Governments (PAG) and the Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ) are conducting an outreach program, Clean Air Starts with Me!, to educate the public on the sources of ozone and what everyone can do to keep our air healthy.

Simple activities like carpooling, refueling during summer evenings, reducing vehicle idling and routine car maintenance, such as keeping your tires properly inflated, can insure that our air remains healthy.

Real-time air quality information can be found online at http://www.airinfonow.org/. To sign up to receive alerts when levels of ozone or other pollutants are elevated visit: http://www.deq.co.pima.az.us/air/AirAlerts.html

For more information about what we can all do to keep our air clean, visit us on facebook or at www.PimaCleanAir.com

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