

AIR QUALITY

National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) have been adopted by federal and state governments to protect the public health and welfare from the known adverse effects of air pollution. The federal government has set primary standards which define levels of air quality that protect the public health. Secondary ambient air quality standards define levels judged by the federal government as necessary to protect the public welfare. Oregon's control strategies have been directed to meet the more stringent secondary air quality standards.¹

The pollutants for which standards have been established are common ones that have been shown to be harmful. These standards are exhibited in Table 1.

Table 1
National Ambient Air Standards

Pollutant	Averaging Time	Federal Standards	
		Primary (Health)	Secondary (Welfare)
Total Suspended Particulate	Annual Geometric Mean	75µg/m ³	60µg/m ³
	24 Hours	260µg/m ³	150µg/m ³
PM10	Annual Arithmetic Mean	50µg/m ³	50µg/m ³
	24 Hours	150µg/m ³	150µg/m ³
Ozone	1 Hour	0.12 ppm	0.12 ppm
Carbon Monoxide	8 Hours	9.0 ppm	9.0 ppm
Sulfur Dioxide	Annual Arithmetic Mean	0.03 ppm	-
	24 Hours	0.14 ppm	-
	3 Hours	-	0.5 ppm
Nitrogen Dioxide	Annual Arithmetic Mean	0.053 ppm	0.053 ppm
Lead	Calendar Quarter	1.5µg/m ³	1.5µg/m ³

Notes: µg/m³ = Micrograms of pollutant per cubic meter of air
ppm = parts per million

¹ State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, 1987 Oregon Air Quality Annual Report, 1988.

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is the state agency responsible for monitoring air quality in Oregon. This department sees that urban areas meet air quality standards and that air quality in the rest of the state does not deteriorate.

The DEQ works with local governments in five airsheds to reduce pollutants to acceptable levels. For areas with identified air quality problems, DEQ has established extensive monitoring and sampling stations. For other areas, monitoring and sampling is done periodically, usually in response to a specific complaint.

The Newport area is within the Willamette Valley Region. The DEQ has not identified Newport as being within a problem area. The meteorology of the area assures a good mixing of the air. In addition, the Newport area does not have significant point sources of pollutants. Therefore, the air quality of Newport is quite good.

However, non-point sources of pollutants do exist here. The major sources are vehicles, road dust, open fires (including wildfires), and wood stoves. If acute problems from these sources do arise, they can be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Conclusion:

Air quality in the Newport area is good. No major point sources of pollutants are within the Newport UGB. Non-point sources are few and can be handled on a case-by-case basis.

GOALS/POLICIES
AIR QUALITY

Goal: To protect the air quality of the Newport area while maintaining a climate conducive to economic growth.

Policy 1: The City of Newport will comply with state and federal agencies, especially the Department of Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency, to assure a continued high level of air quality.