

Advisory

ALERT – 3/24/19 – 07:00

The City of Benicia is issuing an advisory notice for **all residents** with respiratory issues due to particulate matter from an ongoing incident at Valero Benicia Refinery.

The concentration of particulate matter has become significantly higher over the past day. The emissions contain coke, a by-product of the refining process that is made up primarily of carbon particles. Testing of the coke involved in this release shows no heavy metals at harmful levels; however, it may cause discomfort when breathed in and can exacerbate (worsen) underlying respiratory conditions such as asthma.

Those with respiratory compromise should do the following immediately:

- Go inside your home, workplace, or the nearest building that appears to be reasonably airtight and stay there.
- Close all doors, windows, and any fireplace dampers. Cracks around doors and windows can be sealed with tape or damp towels.
- Stay tuned to receive emergency announcements and instructions.
- Healthy individuals – limit outdoor activity.

Follow the City of Benicia Facebook and website (ci.benicia.ca.us) for routine updates. Please do not call 9-1-1 unless you are experiencing an emergency.