

EPA Media Release



Low level bushfire smoke advisory

Friday 14 February 2014

EPA Victoria has issued a low level smoke alert for Melbourne, Geelong and Gippsland (including the Latrobe Valley) tonight and tomorrow as a result of bushfires.

A low level alert means that it is likely residents will see ongoing smoke impacts into Saturday, with visibility reduced to between 10 – 20 kilometres due to high particle concentrations in the air.

The Victorian Chief Health Officer Dr Rosemary Lester advises the elderly, children and those with existing heart or lung conditions to limit prolonged or heavy physical activity.

“Where possible this sector of the community should also limit the time spent outdoors.” Dr Lester said.

“Anyone with a heart or lung condition should take their medication as prescribed by their doctor.

“People with asthma should follow their asthma management plan.

“Everyone should keep informed about fire activity in their immediate area. Anyone with concerns about their health should seek medical advice or call NURSE-ON-CALL on 1300 60 60 24.”

Check EPA’s air quality report at <http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/our-work/monitoring-the-environment/air-quality-bulletins>

For further information about bushfire smoke and health go to www.health.vic.gov.au/environment/bushfires

For fire information go to the Victorian Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667 or visit the Country Fire Authority Victoria website at www.emergency.vic.gov.au

Media inquiries:

- **Air quality 03 9695 2704**
- **Health 03 9096 8803**

