



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**News Release**

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GOVERNOR

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**DOH ISSUES SMOKE AND DUST ADVISORY DUE TO BRUSH FIRE  
ON O`AHU'S NORTH SHORE**

HONOLULU – A brush fire burning in the Waialua area of O`ahu's north shore is generating dense smoke and ash in surrounding areas. The fire is also exposing large acreage of land, which could result in increased levels of dust, especially during the high winds expected due to Hurricane Flossie. The Hawai'i State Department of Health, Clean Air Branch is advising residents and visitors in affected areas, especially those who suffer from a respiratory or chronic breathing problem such as asthma, bronchitis or emphysema, to take certain precautionary measures or even leave the area until the fire is contained and the smoke subsides.

The American Lung Association suggests the following to relieve discomfort for the public - including healthy individuals - who are exposed to heavy dust or brush fire smoke.

- Stay indoors and use an air conditioner, if available.
- Limit physical exertion.
- Drink plenty of fluids to loosen mucus. Warm beverages tend to work best.
- If you have medications, make sure you have an adequate supply and keep them readily available in a convenient place. It is important to take your medication. Call your physician if you need more medication.
- Call your physician for clear instructions on what to do if your lung condition suddenly worsens or as soon as any problem occurs.
- Do not smoke and avoid second-hand smoke.

More

For further information regarding air quality, contact the Hawai'i State Department of Health, Clean Air Branch at (808) 586-4200. To obtain additional information on respiratory health, contact your personal physician or the American Lung Association of Hawai'i at (808) 537-5966.

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