



Smoke Outlook

VA/MD North Zone and Shenandoah Fires

3/25 - 3/26

Issued by Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program on March 25, 2024 at 07:09 AM EDT

Fire

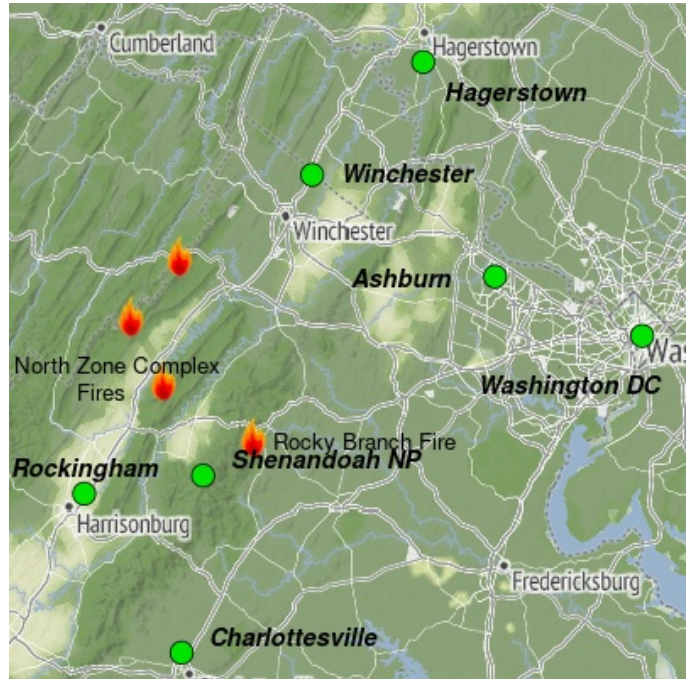
The Rocky Branch Fire in Shenandoah remained just under 1000 acres with 10 percent containment Sunday. The North Zone Complex comprises 4 main fires near and within the GW and Jefferson NF and Shenandoah NP, and totaled just under 14,000 acres late Sunday. Ongoing control efforts will focus on values at risk during this favorable weather window. Additional containment percentage is expected by the end of the day on all fires.

Smoke

During this ongoing dry period, some natural smoke production from interior pockets as well as uncontrolled line will add some light smoke mainly in proximity to northern Shenandoah Valley and NP. Localized smoke will drift west to northwest. However the big regional AQ will remain GOOD into Tuesday.

Roadway Visibility

Some smoke mainly in the immediate vicinity of fires will bring reduced visibility after nightfall. Motorists may encounter reduced visibility in drainages and valleys as smoke settles in light winds near Luray, Highways 340/211, and roadways near active smoldering in and near the GW Jefferson NF and Shenandoah NP.



Daily AQI Forecast* for Monday

Station	Yesterday			Sun 3/24	Comment for Today -- Mon, Mar 25	Forecast*	
	hourly					Mon 3/25	Tue 3/26
	6a	noon	6p				
Hagerstown					Mostly GOOD with periods near MODERATE not related to wildfires today		
Washington DC					GOOD air quality due to favorable winds and reduced fire activity		
Winchester					Mostly GOOD AQ with periods MODERATE not related to wildfire		
Ashburn					GOOD AQ continuing today		
Charlottesville					Reduced fire activity should continue GOOD AQ for area		
Central Shenandoah NP					Mostly GOOD AQ with some smoke near the Rocky Branch fire		
Rockingham					GOOD AQ today with brief MODERATE possible this morning		

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Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good	None
Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should avoid all physical outdoor activity.
Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.

***Disclaimer:** This forecast is based on fine particulates only; ozone is not included. Forecasts may be wrong; use at own risk. Use caution as conditions can change quickly. See your health professional as needed. Smoke sensitive groups should take appropriate precautions.

Additional Links

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality -- <https://www.deq.virginia.gov/our-programs/air/monitoring-assessments> - Virginia Roadway Information -- <https://www.511virginia.org/>



Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- www.wildlandfiresmoke.net
 VA/MD Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/5001855d>
 *Smoke and Health Info -- www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health