

West Fire Smoke Forecast

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Smoke Synopsis

Yesterday afternoon, smoke from both wildfires moved to the northeast, in distinct, narrow plumes. Southwesterly winds also continued into the evening, helping to reduce or delay local settling of smoke.

This morning, little smoke was noted at the Payson and Pine monitors. But, smoke did settle into local drainages in the Star Valley area. Any smoke at the ground will lift out by 9 am. Smoke from wildfires in southern California may also still be visible overhead.

Today, southwesterly (from the southwest) winds will develop again and move smoke from both wildfires to the northeast later this morning and throughout the afternoon. Winds will be stronger than yesterday's winds, so smoke will lay closer to the ground downwind of the fires. Winds will also continue into the evening. Then, later overnight, winds will become terrain-driven, allowing residual smoke to settle into local drainages again. For tomorrow, southwesterly winds are expected again.



West Fire: During the day, smoke will move northeastward, moving over Winslow and possibly Holbrook. Overnight, moderate smoke impacts will be possible East Verde Estates; light to moderate impacts will be possible to Pine. Smoke in the area is expected to lift out of the area by 9 am Friday.

Preacher Fire: During the day, smoke will move northeastward, with light to moderate impacts possible to Tonto Village and Hwy 260. Smoke that makes it over the Rim will move towards Holbrook. Overnight, moderate to heavy impacts will be possible to HWY 260 in/around Preacher Canyon, Tonto Village and Kohl's Ranch. Smoke is also expected to drain down East Verde River, with light to moderate impacts to East Verde Estates. Low-lying areas in/around Payson and Star Valley could see light or light to moderate impacts, as well. Smoke in the area is expected to lift out of the area by 9 am Friday.

Activity Meter

- Stay Smoke Aware
- Minimize Outdoor Activity
- Stay Inside

Location	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday
Payson	Smoke lifting after 9am	Light smoke possible overnight	Smoke lifting by 9am
Pine	Smoke lifting after 9am	Light to moderate smoke possible overnight	Smoke lifting by 9am
Star Valley	Smoke lifting after 9am	Light smoke possible overnight	Smoke lifting by 9am
Tonto Village	Light to moderate smoke possible	Moderate to heavy smoke possible	Light to moderate smoke possible
East Verde Estates	Smoke lifting after 9am	Light to moderate smoke possible	Smoke lifting by 9am
Forest Lakes	Light smoke and haze	Light smoke possible	Light smoke and haze
Camp Verde	Haze possible	Light smoke possible	Haze possible

Note: No matter what the forecast indicates, if you feel like you are having health effects from smoke exposure, take extra care to stay inside or safely get to an area with better air quality. Please contact your healthcare provider with specific concerns.

Additional Information

Fire Contact: 928-291-7354

West Fire InciWeb | <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/aztnf-2024-west-fire-tnf>

Preacher Fire InciWeb | <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/aztnf-2024-preacher-fire-tnf>

ADEQ Portable Smoke Monitors | <https://www.phoenixvis.net/>