



Garfield County Public Health
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www.garfield-county.com

For immediate release

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Contact: Paul Reaser, Environmental Health Specialist, 970-625-5200 x8132, or Renelle Lott, Garfield County Communications Coordinator, 970-366-2275.

Keep your eye on the AQI (Air Quality Index)

Garfield County, CO –Today is the beginning of Air Quality Awareness Week, a cooperative effort among the EPA, the National Weather Service, and Garfield County Environmental Health, to remind the public to protect their health by paying attention to local air quality.

One way to stay informed about the day to day quality of local air is to check the AQI or Air Quality Index. Garfield County Environmental Health posts real-time air quality conditions on its web site garfieldcountyaq.net. Through this site, viewers will find health advisories, air pollutant levels, and information on visual conditions. It allows people to quickly see how clean or polluted the air is, and if there are any health effects associated with the days air. The site monitors five major air pollutants regulated by the Clean Air Act; ground-level ozone, particle pollution, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. The EPA has established national air quality standards on each of these pollutants to protect public health. In the United States, ground-level ozone and airborne particles are the two pollutants that pose the greatest health concerns. By following recommendations on the site, people can take simple steps to reduce the amount of pollution they breathe in.

In addition to air quality information, the site also contains resources on County air quality projects, reports, and outreach efforts from the past several years. For more information about this campaign or air quality efforts in Garfield County, please contact Garfield County Public Health at 970-625-5200 x 8123.

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