

# SCGOVADVISORY

Sarasota County Communications      scgov.net | 941.861.5000 | TV 19

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## **Health advisory issued on outdoor air quality**

Sarasota County issued a health advisory on outdoor air quality for current elevated ozone levels and/or the potential for elevated ozone levels that fall within the "unhealthy for sensitive groups" category, per Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) national ambient air quality standards for public health.

The elevated levels were detected today at Lido Beach Station.

Today's Ozone concentrations are typical of levels measured in this area at this time of the year during periods of low humidity, as has been the meteorological condition over the past 24 hours.

People with respiratory ailments may experience health effects during this air advisory and should limit their outdoor activities. The general public is not likely to be affected. Any person with health-related questions should contact their personal health care provider.

This air advisory is in effect for the remainder of today, October 10.

On March 12, 2008 the EPA significantly strengthened its National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ground-level ozone, from the 0.084 parts per million that has stood since 1997 to 0.075 parts per million. EPA reviews these standards every five years to determine if revisions are necessary to improve public health and protect plants and sensitive ecosystems.

Sarasota County currently meets or falls very close to EPA standards, thanks to an EPA-approved air quality monitoring program and proactive steps to reduce the county's own greenhouse gas emissions.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask for air quality.

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