

**Air Quality Management Division  
Division Director Staff Report  
Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024**

**DATE:** November 1, 2024  
**TO:** District Board of Health  
**FROM:** Francisco Vega, P.E., Division Director  
775-784-7211; [fvega@nnph.org](mailto:fvega@nnph.org)  
**SUBJECT:** **Air Quality Management** - October 2024 EPA Small Business Newsletter,  
Divisional Update, Program Reports, Monitoring and Planning, Permitting and  
Compliance.

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**1. Program Update**

**a. October 2024 EPA Small Business Newsletter**

Please visit the link below to view the October 2024 EPA small business monthly newsletter which highlights environmental regulation, compliance assistance, resources, and upcoming events. Contact [asbo@epa.gov](mailto:asbo@epa.gov) to subscribe to the newsletter. For more information about small business resources and Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs), visit <https://www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses>.



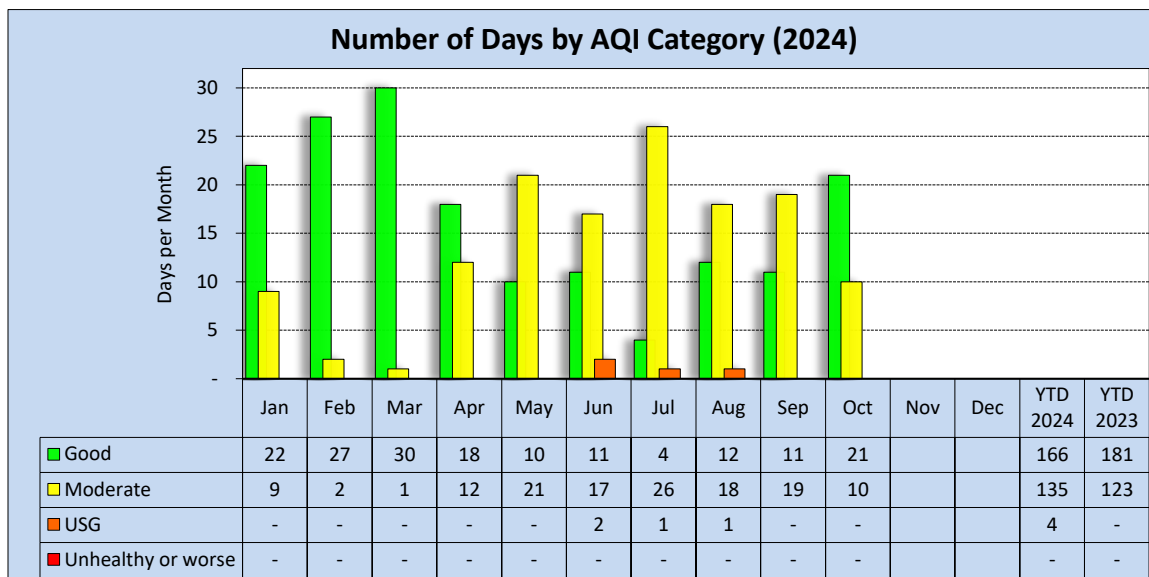
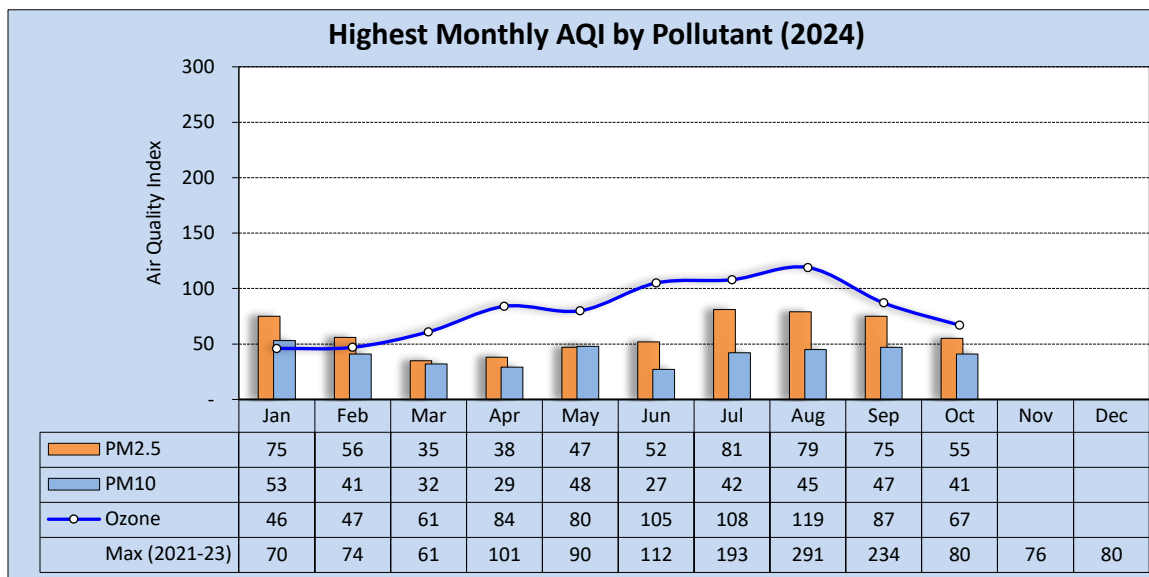
October Newsletter

<https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-10/asbo-october-2024-smallbiz.pdf>

Francisco Vega, P.E., MBA  
Division Director

## 2. Divisional Update

- a. Below are two charts detailing the most recent ambient air monitoring data. The top chart indicates the highest AQI by pollutant and includes the highest AQI from the previous three (3) years in the data table, for comparison. The bottom chart indicates the number of days by AQI category and includes the previous year to date for comparison.



Ambient air monitoring data in these charts represent midnight to midnight concentrations to illustrate comparisons to the NAAQS. These data are neither fully verified nor validated and should be considered PRELIMINARY. As such, the data should not be used to formulate or support regulation, guidance, or any other governmental or public decision.

### 3. Program Reports

#### a. Monitoring and Planning

October Air Quality: There were no exceedances of the ozone, PM<sub>10</sub>, or PM<sub>2.5</sub> National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). The highest ozone, PM<sub>2.5</sub>, and PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations for the month are listed in the table below.

Pollutant	Concentration	Date(s)	Site(s)	Notes
Ozone (8-hour)	0.060 ppm	10/02	Spanish Springs	-
PM <sub>2.5</sub> (24-hour)	11.2 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	10/25	Sparks	-
PM <sub>10</sub> (24-hour)	44 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	10/01	Sparks	-

#### Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Project

On October 22, 2024, the Washoe County School District (WCSD) Board of Trustees approved a Memorandum of Understanding with NNPH for the acceptance of a donation of battery-powered landscaping equipment and training for facilities throughout the WCSD. As part of the project, AQMD is donating approximately 250 pieces of battery-powered electric equipment to replace gas-powered equipment, including all handheld equipment (edgers, trimmers, blowers, chainsaws) at all Title I schools, all high usage handheld equipment at non-Title I schools, and all push mowers at all schools in the WCSD. This project is the driver for a new policy within the school district, where only battery-powered electric equipment will be purchased in the future. Running a gas-powered lawn mower for one hour creates as much pollution as driving 300 miles in an average car. In total, this project will reduce emissions by tens of thousands of pounds annually.



Craig A. Petersen  
Supervisor, Monitoring and Planning

## b. Permitting and Compliance

### October

Staff reviewed fifty (50) sets of plans submitted to the Reno, Sparks, or Washoe County Building Departments to assure the activities complied with Air Quality requirements. Of the fifty (50) sets of plans assigned in October, forty-nine (49) were completed within the jurisdictional timeframes. The one (1) plan not reviewed within the timeframe was assigned on November 6, 2024, and backdated to October 2024. This plan was completed on the same day it was assigned. Of the four hundred and seventy-eight (478) plans reviewed in calendar year 2024, four hundred and seventy-one (471) were completed per jurisdictional timeframes. Of the seven (7) plans not completed within the jurisdictional timeframes, seven (7) were assigned to the Air Quality Management Division after the month the plan was due.

AQMD 2024 Plan Review				
Month	Plans Received	Avg. Days to Complete	Percent Timely Completions	Plans not completed on time
January	49	5.5	98%	1
February	52	5.6	98%	1
March	38	4.7	97%	1
April	56	7.6	98%	1
May	56	6	100%	1
June	58	4.2	100%	0
July	46	4.8	100%	0
August	33	6.6	97%	0
September	35	6.5	98%	1
October	50	3.7	100%	1
November				
December				
Total	478	5.52	99%	7

In October 2024, staff conducted thirty-one (31) stationary source inspections and four (4) initial compliance inspections. Staff were assigned ten (10) new asbestos abatement projects – monitoring the removal of approximately eleven thousand forty-seven (11,047) square feet of asbestos containing materials. Staff received seven (7) facility demolition projects to monitor. Further, there were fifteen (15) new construction/dust projects comprising an additional one hundred fifty-six (156) acres of disturbance. Staff documented thirty-eight (38) construction site inspections. During the month, compliance staff also responded to twenty-nine (29) complaints.

Type of Permit	2024		2023	
	October	YTD	October	Annual Total
<b>Renewal of Existing Air Permits</b>	66	934	66	1,079
<b>New Authorities to Construct</b>	2 (New and Major Modifications)	38	6 (New and Major Modifications)	42
<b>Dust Control Permits</b>	15 (156 acres)	154 (1,800 acres)	14 (131 acres)	193 (2,386 acres)
<b>Wood Stove (WS) Certificates</b>	31	221	24	242
<b>WS Dealers Affidavit of Sale</b>	14 (7 replacement)	79 (35 replacements)	17 (5 replacements)	124 (56 replacements)
<b>WS Notice of Exemptions</b>	788 (6 stoves removed)	5,926 (53 stoves removed)	460 (4 stoves removed)	6,495 (57 stoves removed)
<b>Asbestos Assessments</b>	41	567	78	731
<b>Asbestos Demo and Removal (NESHAP)</b>	17	134	22	196

Complaints	2024		2023	
	October	YTD	October	Annual Total
<b>Asbestos</b>	1	9	0	12
<b>Diesel Idling</b>	0	2	0	2
<b>Dust</b>	16	111	9	96
<b>Nuisance Odor</b>	2	16	0	7
<b>Permit to Operate</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Burn Code</b>	3	8	1	4
<b>General</b>	7	37	9	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>161</b>
Enforcement	2024		2023	
	October	YTD	October	Annual Total
<b>Warnings</b>	4	40	4	26
<b>Notice of Violations</b>	3	22	1	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>46</b>

Joshua C. Restori  
Supervisor, Permitting & Compliance