

# Washington Wildfire Smoke Employer Training Checklist

This list will help ensure that you and your team are prepared for wildfire smoke conditions. The following items were adapted from L&I's new Washington Wildfire Smoke emergency rule.



## 1. CHECK L&I WEBSITE.

- ☐ The latest rules and resources will be posted here: [lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/wildfire-smoke](https://www.lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/wildfire-smoke)  
<https://www.lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/wildfire-smoke>
- ☐ Download this template for an Accident Prevention Program Addendum: [https://www.lni.wa.gov/safety-health/\\_docs/WildfireSmokeAPPAddendum.docx](https://www.lni.wa.gov/safety-health/_docs/WildfireSmokeAPPAddendum.docx)

## 2. IDENTIFY HARMFUL EXPOSURES. Employers are required to monitor air quality before each shift and periodically throughout the day. Air quality data can be checked using any of the following resources:

- ☐ [airnow.gov](https://airnow.gov) (get NowCast AQI air quality where you are)
- ☐ [enviwa.ecology.wa.gov](https://enviwa.ecology.wa.gov) (interactive map of WA air monitoring network)
- ☐ [tools.airfire.org](https://tools.airfire.org) (links to federal wildfire & air quality tools)
- ☐ [enviroflash.info](https://enviroflash.info) (receive notifications about air quality changes)
- ☐ [wasmoke.blogspot.com](https://wasmoke.blogspot.com) (one-stop-shop for WA smoke information)
- ☐ [airnow.gov/airnow-mobile-app/](https://airnow.gov/airnow-mobile-app/) (download EPA AirNow app)

## 3. COMMUNICATE HAZARDS. Employers must establish and implement a system for

**communicating wildfire smoke hazards when: (1) two consecutive NowCast AQI readings for PM2.5 are 69+ or (2) one NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 151+. The system should:**

- ☐ Include protective measures that can be taken against wildfire smoke exposure
- ☐ Encourage employees to report worsening air quality and adverse symptoms

**4. INFORM & TRAIN. Employers must provide all employees and supervisors information about wildfire smoke before work that exposes the employee to an AQI of 69+. Employers must describe in their Accident Prevention Plan how they will provide supervisors with the required training.**

**Employee training:**

- ☐ L&I training videos: [wisha-training.lni.wa.gov/training/articulate/WildfireSmokeSafety/story.html](https://wisha-training.lni.wa.gov/training/articulate/WildfireSmokeSafety/story.html)

**Supervisor training must include employee training along with procedures supervisors must follow:**

- ☐ To implement WAC 296-62-085; Wildfire Smoke [lni.wa.gov/rulemaking-activity/AO21-26/2126CR103EAdoption.pdf](https://lni.wa.gov/rulemaking-activity/AO21-26/2126CR103EAdoption.pdf)
- ☐ If an employee exhibits adverse symptoms of wildfire smoke exposure
- ☐ For transporting employees to an emergency medical service provider if necessary

**5. RESPOND TO EXPOSURE SYMPTOMS. Employers must:**

- ☐ Monitor employees displaying adverse exposure symptoms to determine whether medical attention is necessary
- ☐ Allow employees who show signs of injury or illness to seek medical treatment without any retaliation
- ☐ Have a plan made in advance for prompt medical treatment of employees in the event of serious injury or illness

**6. IMPLEMENT EXPOSURE CONTROLS. Employers are:**

- ☐ Encouraged to implement exposure controls when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 69+
- ☐ Required to implement exposure controls when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 151+

**Some example controls include:**

- ☐ Providing enclosed buildings or structures with filtered air
- ☐ Providing portable HEPA filters in enclosed areas
- ☐ Relocating work to a location with a lower concentration of PM2.5

- ☐ Changing work schedules to a time with a lower concentration of PM2.5
- ☐ Reducing work intensity
- ☐ Providing more rest periods

## 7. PROVIDE RESPIRATORY PROTECTION. Employers are:

- ☐ Encouraged to provide respirators at no cost to employees when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 69+
- ☐ Required to provide respirators at no cost to employees when the NowCast AQI reading for PM2.5 is 151+

## 8. RESOURCES.

- ☐ Note: AQI 69 = WAQA 101 = 20.5µg/m3
- ☐ Note: AQI 151 = WAQA 173 = 55.5µg/m3
- ☐ For more resources please visit the PNASH wildfire smoke safety website: <https://pnash.org/health-and-safety/wildfire-smoke>

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