

GEORGE LATIMER, Westchester County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WESTCHESTER COUNTY IMPLEMENTS PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO CANADIAN WILDFIRES

(White Plains, NY) – Westchester County has taken proactive steps to ensure the safety and well-being of its residents in light of the ongoing wildfires in Canada. While the air quality is expected to improve starting Thursday mid-morning, the County urges its residents to exercise caution and follow recommended guidelines to minimize potential health risks.

- To safeguard against the impact of poor air quality, Westchester County advises its residents to stay indoors with windows closed until the air quality improves significantly.
- If individuals must venture outside, it is strongly recommended to wear masks specifically designed to filter out harmful particles and pollutants.
- Avoid engaging in strenuous physical activities that may lead to increased inhalation of airborne pollutants.

Although there is currently no official burn ban in effect, Westchester County asks all residents to refrain from making fires in their yards or parks. Given the prevailing dry conditions, the risk of unintentional fires spreading and exacerbating the situation is heightened. By abstaining from outdoor fires, residents can contribute to reducing the potential hazards associated with these dry conditions.

Westchester County recommends utilizing [Airnow.gov](https://airnow.gov) as a valuable resource to monitor and assess air quality levels in real-time. This platform provides up-to-date information on air quality indexes and enables residents to make informed decisions about outdoor activities and necessary precautions.

The safety and well-being of our residents remain our utmost priority. Westchester County will continue to closely monitor the situation and provide regular updates as necessary. The County urges all residents to stay informed, exercise caution and prioritize their health during this challenging period.

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