



**Help improve children's overall health by talking to them about air quality and limiting their outdoor activities on Code Orange and Red air quality days.**

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# CHILDREN & OUTDOOR POLLUTION

Many children in **Philadelphia** suffer from asthma and other breathing problems.

**Asthma rates are two to three times higher in Philadelphia than Pennsylvania.**

Poor outdoor air quality makes children sick with asthma and other conditions.

brought to you by:



[www.AirQualityPartnership.org](http://www.AirQualityPartnership.org)  
[www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov)



# ATTENTION PARENTS & TEACHERS

**Pollutants from auto exhaust,  
power plants, oil refineries and  
airport fumes combine to cause  
poor outdoor air quality.**



## How does asthma affect our children?

Asthma can cause missed school days, missed outdoor play, missed social interactions, may lower self esteem, or could even cause death.

## How does asthma affect parents and teachers?

Increases parents medical costs, parents miss work, and children fall behind on school work which may require parental/teacher assistance.

## How can you tell when the air quality is poor?

**Poor air quality is not always easy to see.**

Sunny and clear days could still have high levels of invisible pollutants such as ozone and fine particulates.

## What can you do?

The EPA tests air all the time and has created alerts so you can access this information through the internet or have it sent to your smartphone. Sign up to receive air quality alerts at [www.AirQualityPartnership.org](http://www.AirQualityPartnership.org) or go to [www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov) to download an app for your smartphone.

## How to use the Air Quality Index

If the Air Quality Index is above 100, air quality is unhealthy: first for sensitive groups (children, elderly, and people with lung problems) then for everyone as the AQI value raises. An AQI over 300 represents hazardous air quality.

