

BAD AIR DAY ADVISORY

HOW TO PROTECT YOUR KIDS

WHO? Post for Camp Directors, Counselors, and Staff

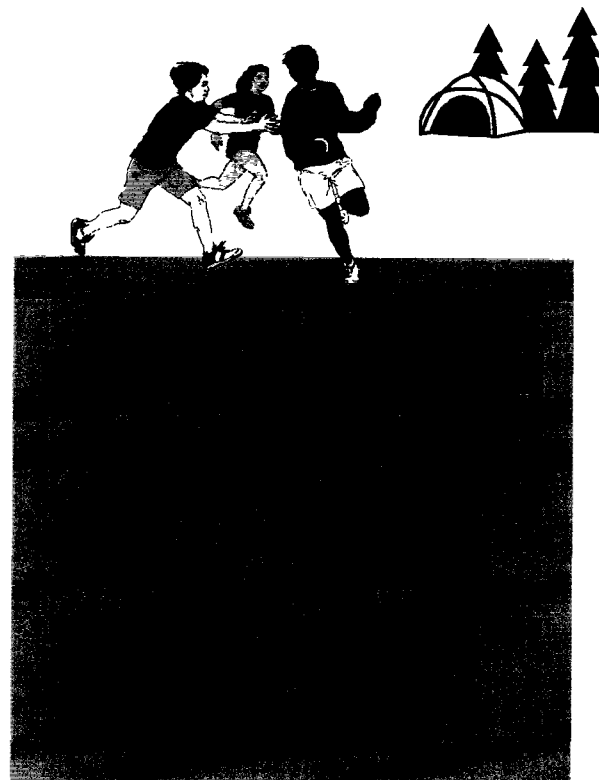
WHAT? OZONE POLLUTION! On hot summer days, ground-level ozone levels can become unhealthy for sensitive people. Children and teens fall into this category because their lungs are still developing and they are often engaged in vigorous activities in their neighborhoods or at summer camps. In addition, one out of every 13 school-age students has asthma.

BAD AIR? HERE? Yes, even in the lovely, often rural settings of camps, ozone can affect air quality. Ozone is sometimes worse in beautiful, pristine areas because it can be carried by the winds hundreds of miles away from the sources of the pollution.

WHEN? Ground-level ozone is created by hot weather and air pollutants. High ozone levels are most likely to occur on hot, sticky, sunny days with light to moderate winds. Ozone levels tend to peak in mid-afternoon to early evening hours and (if ozone concentrations are high) that's the time to reduce physical exertion.

HOW DO I KNOW WHEN TO BE CONCERNED? It's easy to keep track of air quality and make good decisions to protect campers' health. The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a simple tool used to report current air quality conditions. EPA's AirNow website provides links to AQI values reported across the country. Color-coded maps of near real-time data illustrate if the air is:

██████, **MODERATE**, ██████████, or ██████████



For both AQI & Ozone Action information, check out
<http://www.epa.gov/airnow/>



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