

State of North Carolina

JOSH STEIN
GOVERNOR

AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK

2025

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolinians are breathing the cleanest air in decades; with the state being designated “in attainment” with every National Ambient Air Quality Standard for more than 9 years due to the collective efforts of state leaders, regulatory agencies, electric utilities, industry, and the public in addressing air quality concerns and reducing pollution; and

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 people still die annually in the United States due to air pollution, with children and older adults at higher risk of experiencing health-related problems from breathing air pollution; and

WHEREAS, combined emissions in North Carolina of hazardous air pollutants and toxic air pollutants have declined by more than 100 million pounds (a 79 percent decrease) between 1993 and 2020; and

WHEREAS, outdoor visibility, which is important to the environment and tourism economy in North Carolina, has improved since 2000, with visibility on the haziest days improving by 37-49 miles; and

WHEREAS, the state continues to make progress toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 38 percent between 2005 and 2020 and addressing climate change; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) actively monitors tropospheric ozone, particulate matter, and other measures of air quality and works with businesses, local governments, and residents to ensure the air is clean; and

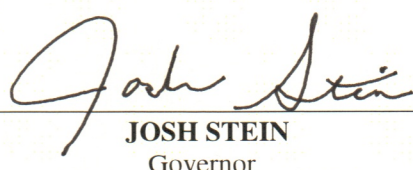
WHEREAS, DEQ’s Division of Air Quality provides daily county-level air quality forecasts in the online Air Quality Portal and through local media to help residents make informed choices about their outdoor activities; and

WHEREAS, DEQ is supporting education and outreach efforts to encourage all residents to access and understand the Air Quality Index as a tool to protect their health and take positive actions in their daily lives to help improve air quality in their community; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina is committed to continued efforts to protect our air and improve air quality for North Carolinians and to raise awareness among North Carolinians about the importance of clean air to the quality of life in our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSH STEIN, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 5-9, 2025, as “**AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.




JOSH STEIN
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fifth day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-fifth and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-ninth.