



Director's Report for April 2025

Meeting Date: May 8, 2025
Department: Director's Office
www.lrapa.org

Agenda Item No. 13
Staff Contact: Travis Knudsen
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I. EXECUTIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Key accomplishments, challenges, and priorities from the past month.

April 2025 marked a month of strong air quality conditions throughout Lane County, all but two days classified as "Good" AQI across all monitoring sites. LRAPA received 45 total complaints, representing a 7% increase from March, with outdoor burning (23) comprising the majority of concerns. Our enforcement team addressed four active cases, primarily related to asbestos or industrial compliance matters.

Community engagement efforts were robust in April, with LRAPA staff participating in many outreach events. Notable activities included a presentation to the Springfield City Club highlighting our AI-driven workflow improvements, our participation in the Springfield Rotary Youth Leadership Speech Contest, and an educational booth at Two Rivers Dos Rios Elementary STEAM Night that engaged over 40 children and 20 parents. The agency also completed professional office improvements with new signage installation, enhancing our agency's visibility and professional presence.

A partnered effort to develop Youth Air Quality Tools made strong progress in creating guidance for childcare providers, with plans to release the resource during Air Quality Awareness Week (May 5-9). This collaborative effort with Lane County Public Health, Quality Care Connections (QCC), and Parametrix, addresses a crucial need for protecting vulnerable populations during poor air quality events.

Our permitting operations remain efficient with a 9% overall permit backlog rate, below the 20% target. The agency issued two outdoor burning letter permits in April and conducted 34 asbestos abatement inspections year-to-date. The Leadership Team completed a valuable two-day retreat focused on building trust, improving communication, and establishing a shared vision for the agency's culture.

While staffing stands at 90% capacity with two vacancies in Operations, our professional development initiatives continued with staff attending Essential Skills Workshop training and Environmental Enforcement training. As we prepare for Air Quality Awareness Week, we're positioned to advance our mission through strengthened partnerships, operational improvements, and continued community engagement.

II. PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH & SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Aligns with Customer/Stakeholder Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goals 1, 2, and 5 which focus on public health protection, community engagement, and stakeholder relationships.

II.A. Air Quality Status & Trends for April 2025

These metrics support **Goal 1 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** and **Goal 4 (Regional Air Monitoring and Analysis)**, tracking our performance against targets for "Good" and "Moderate" AQI days, data completeness, and timely reporting).

April

Site	Date	Max AQI	Pollutant
Eug/Spfld	15-Apr-25	65	PM
Oak	16-Apr-25	48	PM
CottGrv	16-Apr-25	46	PM

AQI	Eug/Spfld	Oak	CottGrv	AQI Range	PM2.5 Range, ug/m3	Ozone Range, ppb
Good	28	30	30	0-50	0-9	0-54
Moderate	2	0	0	51-100	9.1-35.4	55-70
USG	0	0	0	101-150	35.5-55.4	71-85
Unhealthy	0	0	0	151-200	55.5-125.4	86-105
Very Unhealthy	0	0	0	201-300	125.5-225.4	106-200
Hazardous	0	0	0	301+	225.5+	201+

Attachment No. 1: Air Quality Index (AQI) charts for Lane County (April 2025)

Attachment No. 2: PM2.5 index charts for Lane County (April 2025)

II.B. Community Response & Complaint Resolution

This section supports **Goal 1 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for complaint response to demonstrates our commitment to addressing community concerns promptly and effectively.

The number of unique complainants Industry complaints are noted in "(#)".

April 1, 2025, to April 30, 2025
Smoke complaints: 28
23 - Outdoor Burning (19)
4 - Home Wood Heating (2)
1 - Recreational Fire
Industry: 03
1 - International Paper
1 - KA Ranch/Willamette Hay Farms
1 - Lithia Toyota
Asbestos - 04
Miscellaneous: 09
8 - Unknown (8)
1 - Brake Pad Odor
1 - Brewery Odor
Total: 45

Category	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Dust	17	26	12	7	8	1
Ag Burning / Spraying	2	7	2	3	3	0
General Air Quality	4	8	1	25	32	17
Home Wood Heating	74	57	67	52	39	31
Industry	100	336	198	97	75	35
Outdoor Burning	423	243	292	254	253	90
Slash Burning	12	10	6	12	9	0
Asbestos	15	9	22	10	12	10
Miscellaneous	44	31	80	62	91	39
Unknown	74	71	45	65	79	41
Total:	765	798	725	587	601	264

Notes: LRAPA received more smoke and unknown odor complaints in April compared to March (increase of 7 complaints).

II.C. Smoke Management & Wildfire Resilience

This section aligns with **Goal 2 (Enhanced Wildfire Smoke Preparedness)**, tracking our smoke monitoring, advisory issuance, and coordination with state agencies, as well as smoke management activities for outdoor burning and home wood heating.

Outdoor Burning, 2024-2025 Season

LRAPA regulates outdoor burning in Lane County to protect air quality and public health. Under Title 47, LRAPA has authority to regulate open burning practices, including determining when burns can occur. LRAPA aims to allow burning whenever possible while preventing air quality deterioration. Outdoor burning is only curtailed when monitoring or forecasts show potential for unhealthy air quality impacts.

Periods of Curtailment				
Start	End	Areas	Curtailment	Reason
November 1, 2024	March 1, 2025	Eugene/Springfield UGB; Oakridge	Full Prohibition	By Rule, Title 47-015(2)
November 28, 2024	December 6, 2024	Coastal Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation
November 28, 2024	December 6, 2024	Rural Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation
January 8, 2025	January 8, 2025	Coastal Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation
January 8, 2025	January 9, 2025	Rural Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation

Home Wood Heating, 2024-2025 Season

LRAPA regulates home wood heating under Title 16 to reduce PM2.5 emissions during periods of poor air quality. An advisory system (Yellow/Red Days) indicates when curtailment is needed. Yellow Day advisory request voluntary curtailment of wood burning except for those who depend on it as their primary heat source. Red Day advisories prohibit visible smoke from chimneys, with exemptions for economic hardship. Like outdoor burning, LRAPA only issues wood burning curtailment when air quality monitoring or forecasts indicate potential health impacts.

Periods of Curtailment		
Areas	Yellow Days	Red Days
Eugene/Springfield	15	1
Oakridge	9	2

For April 2025, no additional advisories were issued beyond those previously reported as air quality conditions remained favorable throughout the month.

Outdoor Burning Letter Permits, 2024-2025 Season

LRAPA has authority to issue outdoor burning letter permits under Title 47. These permits allow specified burning that would otherwise be prohibited. This program also supports ecological benefits of prescribed fire while protecting public health through strict oversight and timing. LRAPA coordinates closely with land managers to ensure burns are conducted with minimal air quality impacts.

Permit No.	Issue Date	Permittee	Location	Material	Volume
20B24-11-01	November 7, 2024	Mohawk High School - Jeff Little	308300 Wendling Road, Marcola	Miscellaneous debris	10 cubic yards
20B24-11-02	November 15, 2024	Thompson Timber Co	Territorial Road, Junction City	One time burn of forest slash debris	707 cubic yards
20B25-02-01	February 3, 2025	Creswell Church of the Nazarene	805 S Front Street, Creswell	Miscellaneous debris	42 cubic yards

20B25-02-02	February 20, 2025	McKenzie River Trust, c/o Brent Ross	Willamette Confluence burn Unit, Goshen	Land Clearing debris	50 cubic yards
20B25-02-03	March 10, 2025	Leisure Excavating – Gary Rose	Greengate Road - T19 R12 514, Dune City	Lane Clearing debris	130 cubic yards
20B25-04-01	April 28, 2025	Emerald Coalition	18707 Pataha Rd., Walton	Ceremonial Bonfire – clean dry wood debris	4 cubic yards
20B25-04-02	April 30, 2025	Schuyler Brown	Hwy 58 & Brabham Rd., Pleasant Hill	Ice storm cleanup of tree limbs and branches	10 cubic yards

Wildfire Smoke Intrusions & Air Quality Advisories

LRAPA participates in Oregon's Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes, a coordinated system that connects federal, state, and local agencies during significant smoke events. LRAPA's role includes issuing local air quality advisories, coordinating public health messaging, and representing Lane County's interests in state-level response planning.

Air Quality Advisories Issued			
Start Date	End Date	Areas Affected	Primary Pollutant
07-08-2024	07-09-2024	Southern Willamette Valley	Ozone
07-26-2024	08-12-2024	Eastern Lane County	PM2.5
09-09-2024	09-11-2024	Eastern Lane County	PM2.5
01-27-2025	01-29-2025	Eastern Lane County	PM2.5/Woodstoves

Oregon Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes Meetings		
Date	Topic	Advisory Issued
07-19-2024	Coffee Pot & Ore Wildfires	Yes
07-22-2024	Coffee Pot & Ore Wildfires	Yes
07-26-2024	Coffee Pot & SW Oregon Wildfires	Yes
07-31-2024	Middle Fork Complex	Yes
08-02-2024	Middle Fork Complex	Yes
08-07-2024	Middle Fork Complex	Yes
08-09-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	Yes
08-12-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-14-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-16-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-19-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-30-2024	Willamette Complex South	No
09-04-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	No
09-06-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	Yes
09-09-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	Yes
09-11-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	Yes
09-13-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	No
01-07-2025	Agency Smoke Coordination Review	n/a
01-08-2025	Agency Smoke Coordination Review	n/a

II.D. Community Outreach, Education, & Building Partnerships

This section supports **Goal 5 (Partnerships and Interagency Coordination)** metrics for partner engagement and stakeholder communication, strengthening relationships with stakeholders and enhancing public understanding of air quality issues.

Media Log			
Date	Media	Person	Topic
1/23/2025	KLCC	Rachael McDonald	Air stagnation and wood burning advisories
1/23/2025	KEZI	Ryan Bonham	Air stagnation and cleaner woodstove burning
1/28/2025	KEZI	Ryan Bonham	Air Quality Advisory E. Lane County and Red Advisory for Oakridge, Yellow EUG/Spring
2/28/2025	KEZI	Robert Desaulniers	Spring Outdoor Burning Season Opens and Tips on Safe Burning
2/28/2025	KMTR	News Staff	Spring Outdoor Burning Season Opens and Tips on Safe Burning
4/03/2025	Washington Post	Joshua Partlow and Amudalat Ajasa	EPA cutting more than \$1 Billion in EJ grant funds and impact on Lane County and other areas
4/24/2025	Lookout Eugene-Springfield	Ashli Blow	American Lung Association rates Eug./Spring 4 th worst air quality in US.

Springfield Rotary Youth Leadership Speech Contest (April 8th, Springfield High School)

Matt Sorensen represented LRAPA as a judge at the Springfield Rotary Youth Leadership Speech Contest. Three high school seniors presented speeches on topics they are passionate about that could help the community. Each speaker incorporated the Rotary 4-way test into their reasoning for advocating for their idea.

The topics presented included: Reducing plastic waste, Mentoring youth, and Limiting cell phone use among teens.

The winner of the contest received \$300 toward college materials. Our community involvement showcases LRAPA's commitment to supporting youth leadership and environmental awareness in Lane County.

Rivers to Ridges Permit Preparation (April 11th, Willamalane Adult Activity Center)

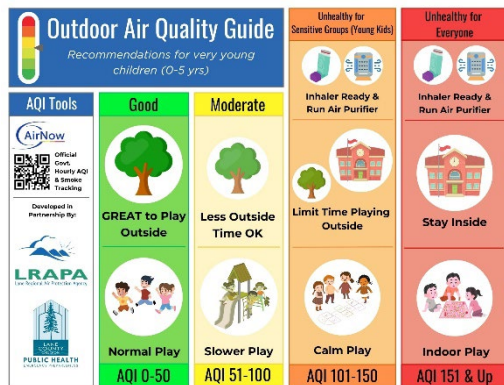
Matt Sorensen met with Bryce Izlar and Jesse Larson from Willamalane to continue preparation for the 2025 prescribed burn permit under the River to Ridges (R2R) banner. The focus of the meeting was to help the R2R collaborative streamline and organize the burn permit application process, ensuring efficiency both for those collecting data and for the LRAPA team preparing the permits.

During the meeting, Matt offered to host the next R2R meeting at the LRAPA office. This offer was gratefully received, and the group plans to meet at LRAPA's boardroom. This represents another opportunity for LRAPA to demonstrate its commitment to community partnerships and to position itself as a valuable asset to projects that help improve air quality in Lane County.

Lane Pollution Prevention Coalition P2C (April 15th, Virtual)

Matt Sorensen represents LRAPA with this coalition which is comprised of city and county government agencies, businesses, and utility providers who work together to help educate and engage Lane County environmental leaders on activities and behaviors that help minimize pollution and preserve water, air, reduce electrical waste, and preserve our quality of life. The City of Eugene presented on PFAS mitigation work in the wastewater treatment facility and shared the growing challenge of PFAS being found in water, soil, and what action steps the city is considering to minimize impacts on Lane County residents.

Youth Air Quality Tools Development Partnership (April 15th, LRAPA Office)



Attachment No. 4: *Outdoor Air Quality Guide* developed by LRAPA in joint with LCPH.

Matt Sorensen and Travis Knudsen represent LRAPA in this important partnership that includes Jo Rodgers from Lane County Public Health, Grace Thirkill from Parametrix/Oakridge Air, and staff from the Department of Human Services. The collaborative is working to develop guidance and a practical tool that will help childcare providers easily understand if and when children can or should be outside based on AQI readings.

This tool is being designed with special consideration for children ages 0 to 5 years old, given the significant impact that smoke and particulate matter can have on their developing respiratory systems. The partnership aims to create an accurate and medically informed resource that will be widely used by childcare providers and schools serving this age group throughout Lane County.

By participating in this collaboration, LRAPA continues to fulfill its mission of protecting public health through improved air quality, with a particular focus on vulnerable populations. This partnership represents an important intersection of public health, air quality monitoring, and early childhood education. Our goal is to release this asset in a joint press release during Air Quality Awareness week (5/5 to 5/9).

LRAPA Share the Air Newsletter (April 16th, via email)

The 2nd quarterly edition of LRAPA Share the Air e-Newsletter went out to over 1,000 Lane County residents and focused on reminding readers about outdoor burning basics, rules, and best practices. It also encouraged residents to avoid burn barrels and consider mulching instead of burning. There was also a reminder for the may 8th open house. To see the newsletter online, visit [HERE](#).

LRAPA Presentation to Springfield City Club (April 17th, Roaring Rapids Pizza)

Travis Knudsen and Matt Sorensen were invited to present to the Springfield City Club by Blake Hutchins from Thorp Purdy, LRAPA's legal counsel. The meeting was well attended with 15 guests, including Merlyn Hough, the former LRAPA Director. Travis provided an overview of LRAPA's work and history and highlighted how the agency is approaching the use of Artificial Intelligence to streamline workflows, improve permit accuracy, and better serve Lane County residents.

J.H. Baxter Communication Meeting (April 17th, Virtual)

Matt Sorensen is representing LRAPA in this group. This monthly meeting between EPA, DEQ, and LRAPA is held to discuss ongoing cleanup efforts at J.H. Baxter. EPA continues to make progress and the contractor successfully removed the asbestos from the retorts and now they are cutting and removing them from the site. Visit https://response.epa.gov/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=15559 for details and pictures on the project.

Lane County's Community Wildfire Protection Plan CWPP (April 23rd, Virtual)

Matt Sorensen joined Lane County's efforts of developing their new Community Wildfire Protection Plan. The CWPP is a county wide project that includes updating evacuation plans, updating the Wildfire Urban Interface (WUI) plan, adjusting building plans in the WUI, and considering the Environmental and Public Health Impacts of wildfires. LRAPA is focused on supporting the development of Environmental and Public Health Impacts portions of the CWPP.

Smoke Management in the Northwest Online Workshop (April 24th, Virtual)

Travis Knudsen and Matt Sorensen attended this annual meeting, hosted by EPA Region 10 and a team of partners,

that provided a platform for professionals across air quality, land management, public health, academia, and community sectors to come together. The workshop focused on wildfire and prescribed fire smoke and related challenges, offering opportunities for collaboration and shared learning.

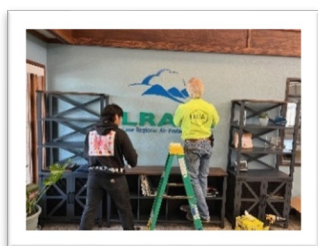
Two Rivers Dos Rios Elementary STEAM Night (April 24th, TRDR Springfield)

Matt Sorensen represented LRAPA at Two Rivers Dos Rios Elementary School's Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) Night event. For this educational outreach opportunity, Matt prepared an engaging hands-on activity that demonstrated how pollution can diffuse in the air. The activity involved children dyeing coffee filters and observing how the colors moved through the filter material, resulting in a tie-dye effect. This visual demonstration helped illustrate the concept of how pollutants can spread through air. Throughout the activity, Matt engaged with participants in real-time discussions about the scientific principles being demonstrated.



The event provided an excellent opportunity for direct engagement with community members: Matt interacted with over 40 children and 20 parents, participants asked numerous thoughtful questions about air quality, pollution, and LRAPA's role in Lane County, the hands-on nature of the activity helped make complex air quality concepts accessible to elementary school students. This community outreach supports LRAPA's goals of increasing public awareness about LRAPA, air quality issues, and building positive relationships with Lane County residents.

LRAPA Sign & Vinyl Lettering Installed (April 24th, LRAPA Office)



Matt Sorensen worked with Eugene Sign & Awning (ES&A) to install the LRAPA logo in the reception area of the office in addition to getting the main entrance doors to include a logo and hours of operation and the phone number. This improvement enhances professional branding of the agency, creates a more welcoming first impression for visitors, fosters organizational pride among staff members, and reinforces LRAPA's identity as an established and impactful agency. We are grateful for ES&A's work to ensure the finished sign is high quality and professional.

Cottage Grove City Council Presentation (April 28th, Cottage Grove City Hall)

Travis Knudsen and Matt Sorensen were invited by Faye Stewart, Cottage Grove Public Works Director and former LRAPA Board member, and Michael Sauerwein, Cottage Grove City Manager, to present to the Cottage Grove City Council. The presentation took place in the Council Chambers.

The presentation covered the fundamentals of LRAPA's work in Lane County and emphasized the specific benefits that a local air authority provides to communities like Cottage Grove, including faster permit development processes and support, lower permitting fees, enhanced local voice in air quality decisions, and the opportunity to fund environmental projects through Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) grants. This outreach effort

reinforces LRAPA's ongoing commitment to maintaining strong relationships with its member jurisdictions and demonstrating the value of a local air authority. The involvement of a former LRAPA Board member in facilitating this presentation highlights the enduring connections LRAPA maintains throughout Lane County.

NW Air Quality Communicators (NWAQC) Meeting (April 28th & 30th, Virtual)

The Northwest Air Quality Communicators (NWAQC) is a cooperative group of regional air quality agencies that share and leverage their marketing and communication tools and messaging to improve communication and best practices in the air quality public communications field across the Pacific Northwest. Regular participation in this group helps LRAPA stay connected with regional partners and enhance its public outreach efforts.

Matt Sorensen attended the NWAQC quarterly meeting, which focused on preparations for two upcoming public awareness campaigns: Air Quality Awareness Week (May 5-9, 2025) and Smoke Ready Week (June 9-10, 2025).

At the April 30th meeting, Matt presented the Air Quality Index (AQI) youth guidance chart that was developed in partnership with Lane County Public Health. This presentation provided an opportunity to showcase LRAPA's collaborative work and share valuable resources with partner agencies across the Northwest region. The AQI youth guidance chart is particularly significant because it helps ensure children are not exposed to harmful levels of smoke during wildfire season or any time there is an elevated AQI. By sharing this resource with regional partners, LRAPA and LCPH is contributing to broader efforts to protect vulnerable populations from the health impacts of poor air quality.

III. MAINTAINING REGULATORY EXCELLENCE

Aligns with Internal Process Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goals 3 and 4—ensuring compliance with air quality standards through effective monitoring, permitting, and enforcement.

III.A. Stationary Source Permitting Progress & Efficiency

This section supports **Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for permit issuance timeliness, permit backlog rate, and area NAAQS compliance.

Permitted Sources

- Currently 15 sources hold a Title V operating permit in Lane County.
- Currently approximately 275 sources hold an ACDP.

Permits in Queue			
Category of Permit Activity	Title V	ACDP	Total In Queue
New	1	2	3
Renewals	2	15	17
Modifications	1	5	6
Constructions	-	-	-
Terminated Permits	-	-	-

Stationary Sources Permits Issued, Year-to-Date

- Title V Operating Permits: 1
- Air Contaminant Discharge Permit: 12

Permits on public notice from April 1 to April 30, 2025		
Source Name	Reason for Public Notice	Type of Permit
Rosboro Company, LLC – Springfield Facility	Renewal of Title V Operating Permit	Title V permit renewal. Off public notice 4/25/25
Costco Wholesale Corporation (Costco Fuel Facility Loc. 17)	Renewal of Standard ACDP	Standard ACDP renewal. Off public notice 4/25/25
Emerald Forest Products, Plant #1	Renewal of Standard ACDP and Toxic Air Contaminant Permit Addendum (CAO)	Standard ACDP renewal. Off public notice 5/23/25.

Permit Backlog as of April 30, 2025			
Permit Type	Permits by Type	Permits Extended Administratively	Percentage of Total (%)
Title V	15	1	7%
Standard	24	4	17%
Simple	27	1	4%
Total	66	8	9%

III.B. Asbestos Program Oversight

This section supports **Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** initiatives related to operating the asbestos program, including inspections and rule updates. LRAPA protects public health from asbestos hazards through effective oversight and education.

LRAPA administers the asbestos program in Lane County under Title 43. This program regulates the handling, removal, and disposal of asbestos-containing materials to prevent public exposure to this

hazardous substance. LRAPA reviews asbestos survey reports, processes abatement notifications, conducts inspections, and enforces compliance with asbestos regulations to protect workers and the public.

Asbestos Notices		<i>Year-to-Date↓</i>				
Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Asbestos Abatement Notices	439	408	465	466	436	135
School Asbestos Abatement Notices (NESHAP)	25	20	16	17	21	3
Number of Asbestos Abatements Inspected (AHERA)	93	104	115	91	109	34

III.C. Enforcement

This section supports **Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for enforcement action resolution and evaluations completed. The enforcement program ensures that regulations are followed, and violations are addressed.

LRAPA's compliance program ensures that air quality regulations are followed by stationary sources, asbestos contractors, and the general public. This section provides an overview of enforcement actions taken during the reporting period, including notices of non-compliance, civil penalties, and case resolutions.

April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025					
Category of Violation	New	Follow-Up Action	Pending	Closed	Total
Asbestos	-	-	1	-	1
Industrial	-	1	2	-	3
Outdoor Burning	-	-	-	-	-
Fugitive Dust	-	-	-	-	-
Home Wood Heating	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	3	-	4

Attachment No. 3: April 2025, Enforcement Actions Detail Report.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Notices of Non-compliance and Warnings	15	21	24	19	9	7
Notices of Violation with Civil Penalties	26	17	24	15	5	7

IV. STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

Aligns with Learning & Growth Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goal 6—developing staff capabilities and improving operational systems.

IV.A. Staff Development & Agency Growth

This section supports Goal 6 (Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency) metrics focused on staff retention, professional development, and employee satisfaction, essential for achieving operational excellence.

LRAPA maintains a skilled workforce to carry out our mission of protecting air quality in Lane County. This section provides an overview of our current staffing levels, vacancies, and professional development activities. Our commitment to staff development ensures we have the expertise needed to address complex air quality challenges effectively.

Department	FTE	Vacancies
Administration	6.0	0.0
Operations	6.0	2.0
Finance	3.0	0.0
Technical services	4.0	0.0
Total	19.0	2.0
<i>Agency at 90% of staffing capacity</i>		

LRAPA is recruiting for an Environmental Coordinator position in April to strengthen our permitting and compliance operations. This role will coordinate with permit writers and field staff while supporting Board meetings, regulatory rulemaking, and procedural documentation. Recruitment remains open until filled, with first application review scheduled for May 2nd.

Staff Professional Development, Year-to-Date			
Training	Participation	Completion Date	Provider
Budget Law Training	2	February	Oregon Department of Revenue
Basic Inspector Training	3	March	WESTAR
<i>Fred Pryor Customer Service Training</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>Pryor Learning</i>
<i>Intro to Environmental Enforcement training</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>Western States Project</i>
<i>Essential Skills Workshop</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>Springfield Chamber: Work ready</i>

Fred Pryor Customer Service Training (April 2nd, Virtual)

An LRAPA staff member participated in Fred Pryor's comprehensive Customer Service Excellence training. This one-day virtual workshop focused on enhancing communication skills, managing difficult interactions, and delivering consistent high-quality service. Participants learned techniques to actively listen to citizen concerns, de-escalate challenging situations, and effectively communicate technical information to non-specialists.

Intro to Environmental Enforcement Training (April 15-16th, Salem)

Two staff members completed the Western States Project's Introduction to Environmental Enforcement training in Salem. This two-day program covered fundamental aspects of environmental compliance and enforcement, including inspection protocols, evidence collection, case development, and enforcement decision-making processes. Participants engaged in practical exercises simulating real-world compliance scenarios specific to air quality regulations.

Essential Skills Workshop (April 19th, Springfield)

One LRAPA staff member attended the Essential Skills Workshop offered by the Springfield Chamber's "Work Ready" program. This in-person training focused on developing core professional competencies including effective communication, time management, conflict resolution, and adaptive problem-solving. The workshop incorporated both theoretical frameworks and practical application through interactive exercises.

LRAPA Leadership Training and Retreat (April 21st-22nd, Springfield)



Each of LRAPA's managers attended a two day leadership retreat, facilitated by professional coaching consultant Terrill Thompson (<https://www.banyan-consulting.com>), providing the opportunity to develop important skills for effective leadership. The team worked on understanding individual and collective strengths, improving communication and decision-making styles, and building trust using Brené Brown's BRAVING model. They also engaged in activities designed to foster deeper connections, particularly valuable as half of the Leadership Team are new to the organization.

During this time together, the team made meaningful progress in establishing a shared vision and laying the groundwork for the intentional culture they want to create—one built on trust and connection. The leadership team is excited to bring this renewed energy and clarity back to our work alongside the full LRAPA team.

EPA Region 10 Title V and NSR Training (April 22-24, Anchorage, AK)

LRAPA enhanced its permitting expertise through participation in EPA Region 10's Title V and NSR training. One permit writer attended in person while five staff members joined virtually. The three-day workshop covered air quality topics and updates.

SPD Active Violence Incident (AVI) Training (May 1st, LRAPA Office)

Matt Sorensen connected with George Crolly the Lieutenant of the Springfield Police Department to provide an Active Violence Incident (AVI) Prevention, Preparedness & Response training for all LRAPA staff. SPD developed this presentation specifically to help organizations like ours be prepared for unlikely but critical situations. With the return to the newly remodeled space, and with a lot of new faces joining the LRAPA team and requests for this type of training, leadership thought it important to offer this training for our collective safety and preparedness.

The 90-minute presentation was designed to build foundational awareness and teach participants to recognize potential threats and respond appropriately. This includes prevention efforts and behavioral indicators, threat recognition and mental preparation, preparedness options and response protocols, actionable objectives and resources.

IV.B. Operational Improvements & Innovation

*This section supports **Goal 6 (Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency)** metrics for technology adoption and systems modernization, enhancing our efficiency and effectiveness in serving Lane County.*

LRAPA is working to improve our systems and processes to enhance efficiency and effectiveness. These improvements support our ability to fulfill our mission and provide better service to the public. Current initiatives focus on technology upgrades, document management, and standardized procedures.

Current activities underway:

- **LINFO Database Upgrade:** Our central database system is undergoing background updates to version 3.0. These improvements will enhance permit tracking, complaint management, and reporting capabilities.

LRAPA asbestos, complaint, workgroups attended meetings with LCOG on April 23, and April 30 to review version 3.0 current status and give updates to be implemented into the program ahead of navigating to the new version.

Reports still needed to be developed by LCOG for version 3.0, before the shift can be completed, but it is the next targeted effort.

- **Meeting Technology:** Installation of equipment to facilitate hybrid meetings in the boardroom is complete. This technology will improve accessibility for board meetings, staff training, and stakeholder engagement, supporting our transparency and communication goals.

Audio challenges have been identified with the system. Troubleshooting is underway to determine if the adjustments are associated with software or hardware of the system.

- **Standard Operating Procedures:** Development and review of SOPs is ongoing for key agency functions. These procedures ensure consistency in operations, facilitate staff cross-training, and support succession planning.

SOPs have been drafted in the enforcement, asbestos, and finance departments and are internally under review. These are expected to be internally published in May or June 2025.

V. ENSURING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Aligns with Financial Stewardship Perspective of goal 7—managing financial resources effectively and transparently.

V.A. Budget Performance & Stability

This section supports Goal 7 (Financial Sustainability and Transparency) metrics for budget variance and maintaining adequate reserves (4 months of operating budget), ensuring LRAPA can fulfill its mission consistently.

Please refer to the March 2025 financial update (Agenda number 7).

Line Items to Watch Closely: These line items are above 90% of the expected budgeted spending to date. For example, if 75% of the year has elapsed, anything above 68% will be listed.

- **The General Fund Capital Outlay**, expenditures currently total 81% of budgeted spending and is aligned with expectations as we approach the completion of our remodel project, which will fully utilize this budget line by fiscal year-end.
- **The Special Fund (Title V) Materials & Services**, expenditures have reached 80% of budgeted spending, but only minimal further expenses are expected for FY’25.

Summary of Expenditures to Date: Although **75%** of the year has elapsed **as of 3/31/25**, spending is currently below that threshold in each of the LRAPA funds. These are the categories we must consider when asking the question “Were we below or over budget for the year?”:

- **General Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **71%**
- **Special Revenue Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **62%**
- **Grant Fund Total** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **31%**
- **All Funds Consolidated** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **56%**

V.B. Financial Transparency & Reporting

This section supports Goal 7 (Financial Sustainability and Transparency) metrics for financial reports provided to the Board (target: monthly) and timely audit completion (target: before December 31). Transparency in financial matters builds trust with our stakeholders and ensures accountability.

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025	Status	Completion Date
Budget	Adopted	June 2025
Audit	In progress (80% complete)	Expected July 2025

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026	Status	Completion Date
Budget	Approved by Budget Committee in April 2025 (Final edits on 4/10/25)	Expected May 2025
Audit	To be scheduled	Expected December 2025

VI. BOARD CALENDAR

A tentative review of upcoming initiatives, events, and board business.

2025	2026
<p>January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Preview upcoming appointments on board and committees. — Oakridge Air update — Remodel update <p>January; Work Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Discussion of Partner Dues — Discussion of Board Goals — Discussion of Board Meeting Schedule <p>February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Supplemental Budget for FY'25 — Appoint new Budget Committee members, and appoint Budget Officer — Elect the Board Chair and Vice-Chair — Board Goals Review — Federal Grant Status Update — Remodel Update <p>March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26 — Authorization for Public Comment on SB 5520 — Board Goals Approval — Federal Grant Status Update — Remodel Final Update <p>April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26; Approve Budget — Annual By Rule Fee Schedule — Public Comment SB 5520; Report <p>May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Public Hearing of FY'26 Approved Budget, Board Adoption — Oakridge Air Update — Federal Grants Status Update — LRAPA Open House <p>June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Outdoor Burning Season Review — Federal Grants Status Update — The Permit Life Cycle: Application to Compliance <p>July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Rulemaking Review — Federal Grants Status Update — FY'24 Audit Report & Presentation — Executive Director's Performance Evaluation Process — PERS UAL Discussion, Review & Investment Strategy <p>August</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — PERS UAL Workgroup <p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Review Legislative Session and state general fund decisions. — Review Local Partner Dues Calculation for FY'27. — Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update <p>October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Approve Local Dues Calculation for FY'27. — Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update/Review — Outdoor Burning Season Update <p>November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Audit Update, FY'25 — Home Wood Heating Season Update — Executive Session: Director Performance Evaluation <p>December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — No Meeting 	<p>January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Preview upcoming appointments on board and committees. — Oakridge Air update — Review budget forecast for FY'2026-2029 <p>February</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Supplemental Budget for FY'26 — FY'25 Audit Report & Presentation — Appoint new Budget Committee members, and appoint Budget Officer — Elect the Board Chair and Vice-Chair <p>March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26 <p>April</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Budget Committee Meeting for FY'27; Approve Budget — Executive Director's Performance Evaluation Process <p>May</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Public Hearing of FY'27 Approved Budget; Board Adoption — Executive Session: Director Performance Evaluation — Oakridge Air Update <p>June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Outdoor Burning Season Review <p>July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Rulemaking Review — Review PERS UAL Liability & Investment Strategy <p>August</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — No Meeting <p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Review Legislative Short Session. — Review Local Partner Dues Calculation for FY'28. — Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update <p>October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Approve Local Dues Calculation for FY'28. — Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update/Review — Outdoor Burning Season Update <p>November</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Audit Update, FY'27 — Home Wood Heating Season Update <p>December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — No Meeting

VII. LRAPA STRATEGIC GOALS REFERENCE SHEET

These ongoing and sustained goals are designed to ensure comprehensive performance management across four key perspectives. This reference sheet provides an overview of each strategic goal and its associated performance metrics.

MISSION: To protect public health, quality of life and the environment as a leader and advocate for the continuous improvement of air quality in Lane County.

VISION: Community partners working together to ensure clean air for everyone.

GOAL 1: Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education

Protect public health through air quality initiatives and foster community engagement via educational programs, prompt response to public concerns, and efforts to ensure equitable protection from air pollution for all communities.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % of days in "Good" or "Moderate" AQI categories by monitoring location (target: 95% annually) - Number of days with PM2.5 or PM10 exceeding NAAQS 24-hour standards (target: 0) - % of complaints responded to (target: 95%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of educational events/programs conducted quarterly (target: 2 per quarter) - Number of wood heating advisories issued (target: prior to 150 AQI in metro) - Email listserv growth (target: >3% increase annually)

GOAL 2: Enhanced Wildfire Smoke Preparedness

Address the increasing threat of wildfire smoke intrusions to public health in Lane County through public education, collaboration with local jurisdictions, and enhanced monitoring and communication during wildfire events. In addition to seeking funding avenues which directly support this new and growing smoke management service need.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Response time to publish smoke advisories during events (target: before 1pm on days needed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain LRAPA supporter commercial air sensors in Lane County (target: approximately 75) - State smoke advisory engagement (target: 100% participation)

GOAL 3: Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education

Ensure compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and other health-based benchmarks, manage air quality permits for regulated sources, and implement best practices in emissions control, balancing economic development with environmental protection through rigorous permitting processes.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % of area in compliance with NAAQS standards (target: 100%) - % of permits issued within target timeframes (target: 90%) - Permit backlog rate (target: <20%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of annual Full Compliance Evaluations completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%) - % of enforcement actions resolved within 6 months (target: 80%)

GOAL 4: Regional Air Monitoring and Analysis

Collect, analyze, and report comprehensive air quality data across Lane County to inform policy decisions, alert the public, and track long-term air quality trends.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % data completeness for monitoring network (target: >95%) - Timeliness of data reporting to the public and EPA (target: 100% on schedule) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % of monitors calibrated on schedule (target: 100%) - % uptime for real-time data systems (target: 98%) - Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)

GOAL 5: Partnerships and Interagency Coordination

Build and maintain strong relationships with various stakeholders, including industry, local jurisdictions, and community groups, to foster collaboration, improve communication, and ensure that LRAPA's work is responsive to community needs and concerns.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of industry outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year) - Number of community outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year) - Number of partner outreach engagements completed annually (target: 5 per year) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversity of inter-agency meetings attended (target: prioritize local, then state, then federal engagements) - Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%) - Communication frequency with key stakeholders (target: Quarterly communication) - Number of council presentations delivered (target: 1 per jurisdiction annually)

GOAL 6: Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency

Strengthen LRAPA's internal systems, workflows, and operational capacity through technology integration, process improvement, and staff development to enhance organizational effectiveness and service delivery.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employee satisfaction/engagement scores (target: 85% satisfaction) - Staff retention rate (target: >85% annually) - % completion of internal systems modernization (target: 100% of planned upgrades, e.g. LINFO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of staff professional development training completed (Target: 2 per staff per year) - Number of staff utilizing advancing technologies in workflows (target: > 50%)

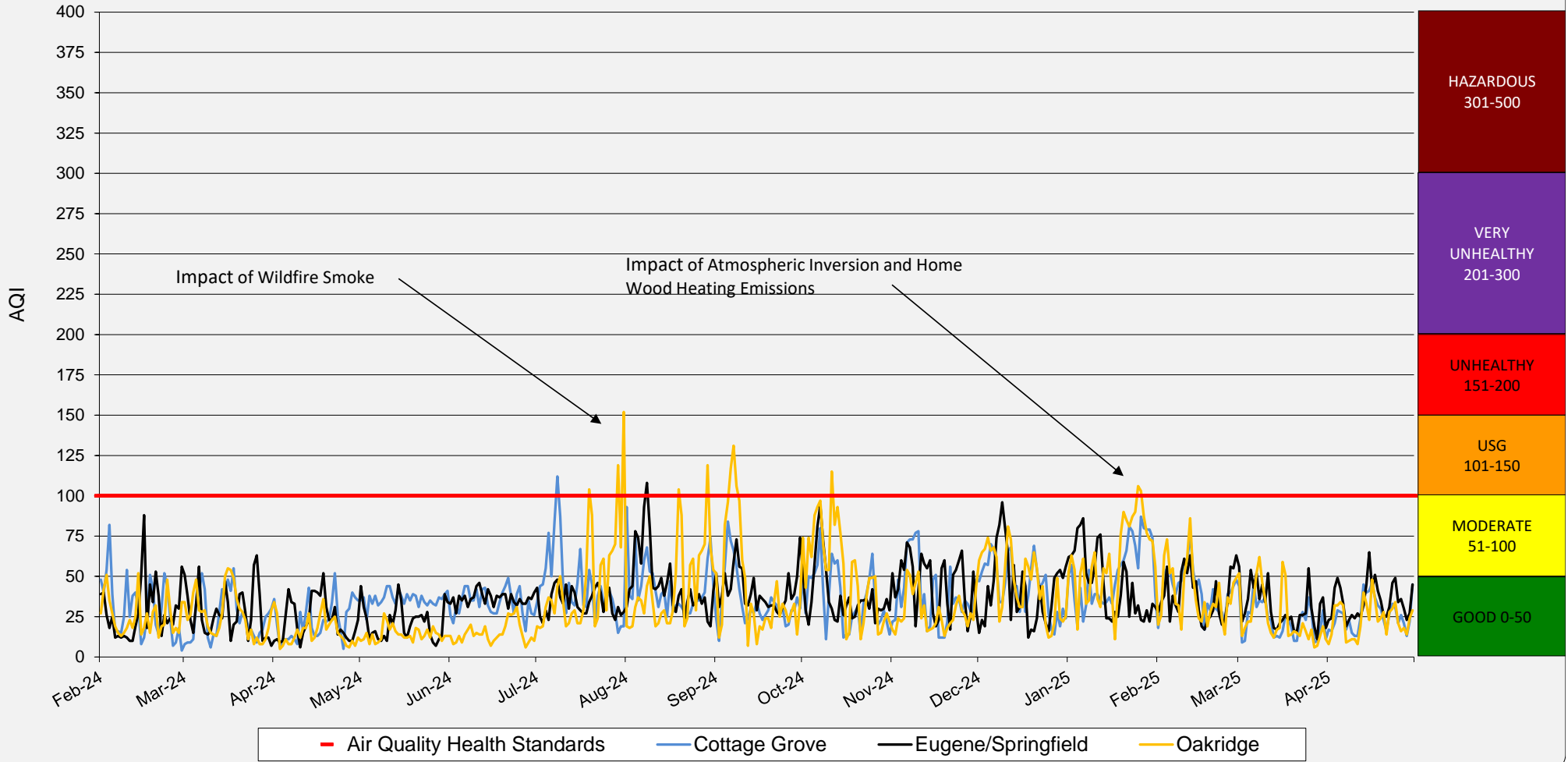
GOAL 7: Financial Sustainability and Transparency

Ensure LRAPA's long-term financial stability and improve fiscal transparency through diversified funding sources, robust financial management practices, and clear communication of financial decisions to stakeholders.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reserve fund supporting annual operating budget (target: 4 months) - Budget variance (target: within 10% of planned) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of financial reports provided to Board & public (target: monthly to Board) - Audit completed before state deadline (target: Dec. 31)

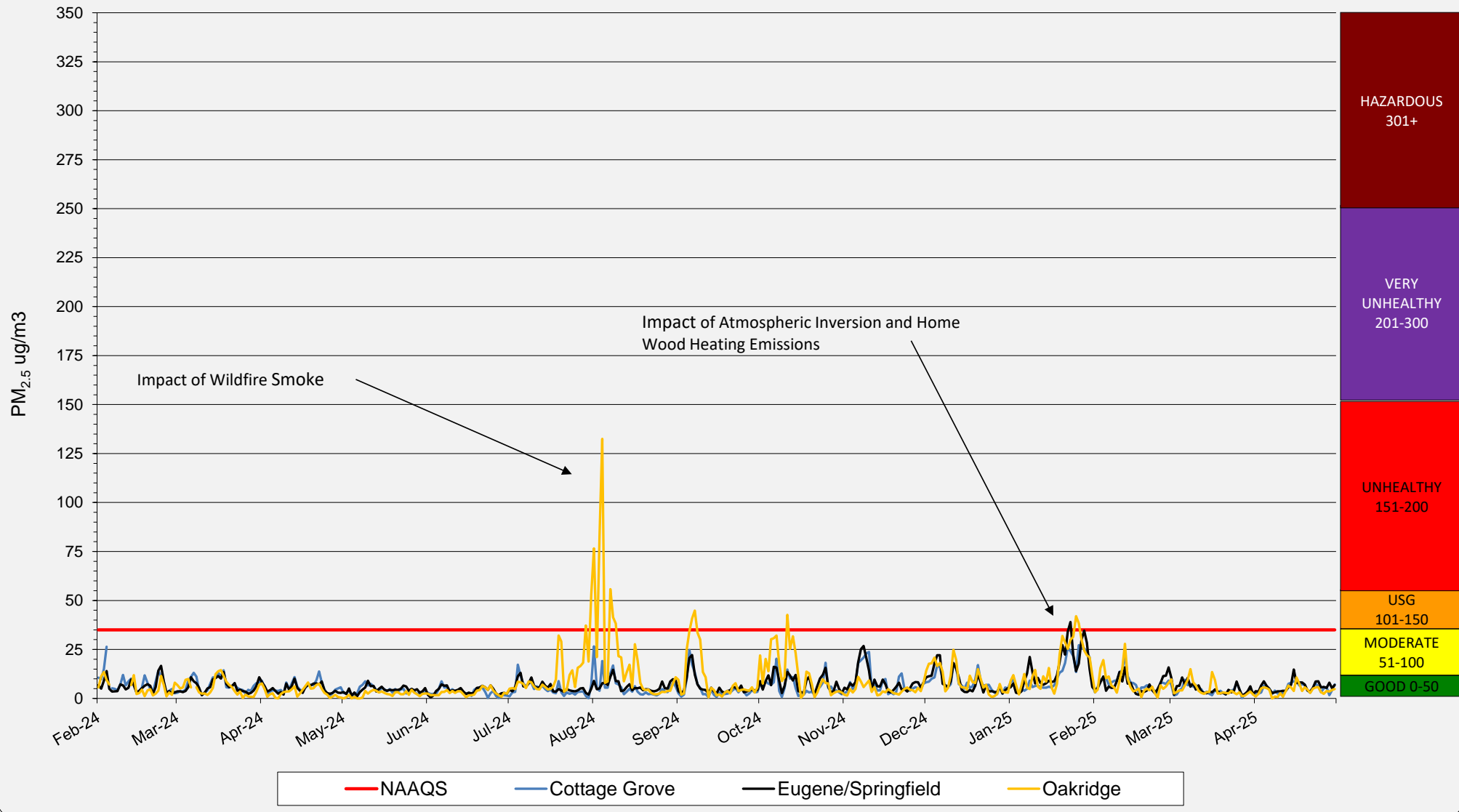
Daily Air Quality Index Chart

This 15-month chart demonstrates the seasonality of the pollutants.



Daily PM2.5 Levels

Daily Sampling, NAAQS Exceedance is Triggered on the 8th High



NEW/OPEN ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS DETAIL REPORT
4/1/2025 -- 4/30/2025
Report of open actions initiated since last report

NEW ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS: None.

ACTIONS PERFORMED (NON issued prior to 04/01/2025 with current action in reporting period):

1. AURORA INNOVATIONS / HYDROFARM (EUGENE)
 - A. Violation: Failure to submit 2023 semi-annual report required by Condition #28 in the ACDP #200053. The 2023 semi-annual report was due February 15, 2024; failure to submit their 2023 ATEI report by July 1, 2024.
 - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3910 issued 7/31/2024
 - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2024-3910 (\$2,500) issued 04/23/2025
 - D. Resolution: PENDING
 - E. Source Type: FERTELIZER MANUFACTURING
 - F. Initiated By: INSPECTIONS

PENDING (Enforcement actions issued prior to 4/1/2025 with no reporting action in the current reporting period):

1. A & K DEVELOPMENT CO, PAC METAL FAB (JUNCTION CITY)
 - A. Violation: Failed to notify LRAPA prior to the construction of a new stationary source in accordance with LRAPA Rules and Regulations Section 34-010(1)(a); operating an air contaminant source which is listed in Section 37-8010 Table 1 without first obtaining and ACDP from LRAPA in accordance with LRAPA 37-0020(3).
 - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3903 issued 5/30/2024
 - C. Subsequent Action: PENDING
 - D. Resolution: PENDING
 - E. Source Type: METAL FABRICATION AND PAINTINGGG
 - F. Initiated By: INSPECTIONS

2. DUST 2 DIAMONDS, LLC (SPRINGFIELD)
 - A. Violation: Performed an asbestos abatement project without possessing a license to perform asbestos abatement; openly accumulated friable asbestos-containing materials.
 - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3908 issued 9/6/2024
 - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2024-3908 (\$8,400) issued 9/6/2024; request for reduction approved and reduced to \$4,800 with a payment plan of \$100 beginning May 1, 2025.
 - D. Resolution: PENDING
 - E. Source Type: ASBESTOS
 - F. Initiated By: INSPECTION

3. INTERNATIONAL PAPER (SPRINGFIELD)
 - A. Violation: Between January 23, 2024, and June 30, 2024, International Paper Company failed to implement monitoring required by Title V Operating Permit #208850, issued January 23, 2024. It is alleged that the additional monitoring requirements were not implemented when the permit was issued with the required monitoring was not performed for the first (6) six months of 2024 (1/23/2024 - 6/30/2024).
 - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3920 issued 1/30/2025
 - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2024-3920 (\$9,000) issued 1/30/2025; request for reduction and Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) under review
 - D. Resolution: PENDING
 - E. Source Type: PAPER & PULP MILL
 - F. Initiated By: SELF REPORTING

CLOSED ENFORCEMENT CASES Enforcement Actions issued prior to 3/1/2025 and closed in the current reporting period): None.



Outdoor Air Quality Guide

Recommendations for very young children (0-5 yrs)

AQI Tools



Official Govt. Hourly AQI & Smoke Tracking

Developed in Partnership By:



LRAPA
Lane Regional Air Protection Agency



LANE COUNTY OREGON
PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Good



GREAT to Play Outside



Normal Play

AQI 0-50

Moderate



Less Outside Time OK



Slower Play

AQI 51-100

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (Young Kids)



Inhaler Ready & Run Air Purifier



Limit Time Playing Outside



Calm Play

AQI 101-150

Unhealthy for Everyone



Inhaler Ready & Run Air Purifier



Stay Inside



Indoor Play

AQI 151 & Up