



# MCAC NEWS BRIEF

A Snapshot of MCAC Headlines

8.21.2020 Issue 9



Serving the Southern California Masonry Industry Since 1947.

## Top Stories In This Briefing



**Arizona 2021 Here We Come...Hopefully**  
The Votes are in for the Next MCAC State Meeting



**Get Your Education On!**  
Skilled & Trained Workforce, Diesel Regs, Post-COVID Masonry Industry and More



**California Wildfire Smoke Regulation is In Effect**  
Cal/OSHA Reminds Employers to Protect Workers

### Arizona 2021 Here We Come...Hopefully

By a 54% to 41% margin, Arizona Spring 2021 will host the 166th MCAC State Meeting.



Typically, we would be island-bound for our first meeting of 2021. While we will miss the Aloha Spirit, current conditions are *anything but typical* (understatement of the year!) so we will look to Scottsdale, AZ to give us a change of scenery but keep us closer to home with more travel flexibility -- aka 'if you don't want to get on a plane, you don't have to'.

We are in talks with two hotel properties, both of which have presented very thorough health safety protocols. Our goal is a program that gets the gang together again and offers the amenities our attendees have come to expect all while observing rules to keep us healthy.

So, fingers crossed! Hopefully, we will see you next Spring.

Thank you to everyone that responded to our 2021 meeting survey.





## Get Your Education On! August & September Bring a Wide Array of Online Learning Opportunities

Contact me, [julie@mca-ca.org](mailto:julie@mca-ca.org), if you want the event notice for any of the sessions below. Registration links are provided.

August 25	1:00-2:30pm	Prevailing Wage Law 101: Part 1 of 2	\$40 SRBX Members / \$60 Non-Members	<a href="#">REGISTER</a> includes Sept 1 Skilled & Trained
September 1	1:00-2:00pm	Understanding Skilled & Trained Workforce Requirements: Part 2 of 2	See above. Registration includes Parts 1 and 2	<a href="#">REGISTER</a> includes Aug 25 Prevailing Wage
August 28	9:00-10:30am	Strategic Planning for Masonry Design & Construction - Beyond COVID-19	FREE	<a href="#">REGISTER</a>
September 10	1:00-3:30pm	CARB Diesel Truck Rules: Compliance and Reporting for 2020 and Beyond	FREE	<a href="#">REGISTER</a>
On Demand	At Your Convenience	Heat Illness Prevention	FREE	<a href="#">VIEW WEBINAR</a>
CANCELLED!		MCA San Diego Golf Tournament		<a href="#">VIEW NOTICE</a>
September 4				

### Cal/OSHA Wildfire Smoke Regulation is in Effect

Flashback to October 2019. California is being ravaged by wildfires. Cal/OSHA passes an [emergency wildfire smoke regulation](#). See MCAC Advisory [Here](#).



Fast forward to August 2020. Deja vu. Except the emergency regulation is now permanent. Cal/OSHA is reminding employers that the [regulation](#) is in effect and they must protect their workers from unhealthy air resulting from wildfire smoke.

Employers must monitor the AQI for particulate matter PM2.5. Check the AQI before each shift and periodically throughout the day. Four resources are listed in the regulation as approved methods for monitoring AQI.

- [U.S. EPA AirNow](#) website
- [U.S. Forest Service Wildland Air Quality Response Program](#) website
- [California Air Resources Board](#) website
- [Local air pollution control district](#) websites or [local air quality management district](#) website

#### If the AQI for PM2.5 is 151 or greater:

- **Inform employees** of the AQI for PM2.5 and the protective measures available to them.
- **Train all employees** on the information contained in section 5141.1 Appendix B.

This includes informing them of the harmful effects of particulate matter, that there are no reprisals for seeking medical treatment, the ways they can check the AQI (see above), and the employer's communication system to be used for air quality updates and reporting physical symptoms from wildfire smoke.

- **Lower exposure** by changing work procedures or schedules. Such changes might include increasing rest times and frequency, reducing work intensity (aka slow the pace/production), and providing protected areas like indoor structures with filtered air.
- **Provide proper respiratory protection equipment**, such as disposable respirators, for voluntary use.
  - Respirators must be labeled N-95, N-99, N-100, R-95, P-95, P-99, or P-100, and must be labeled as approved by the US National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

#### If the AQI for PM2.5 exceeds 500:

- **Respirator use is required** -- at which point California's Respiratory Protection regulation (section [5144](#)) also applies.

*Note: Cal/OSHA is working to find temporary alternatives to compliant respirators like N95 masks. We will bring you updates on their solution as we receive them.*

#### Protection from Wildfire Smoke -- California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5141.1

[https://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/5141\\_1.html](https://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/5141_1.html)

#### Wildfire Frequently Asked Questions

<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/wildfire/wildfire-faq.html>

Read full Cal/OSHA News Release [Here](#)



2020/21 MCAC Membership Roster Available Online

**Reserve Your Ad Spot for 2021/22 Now! Prime Locations Go Fast**

Sincerely,

*Julie Trost*

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