

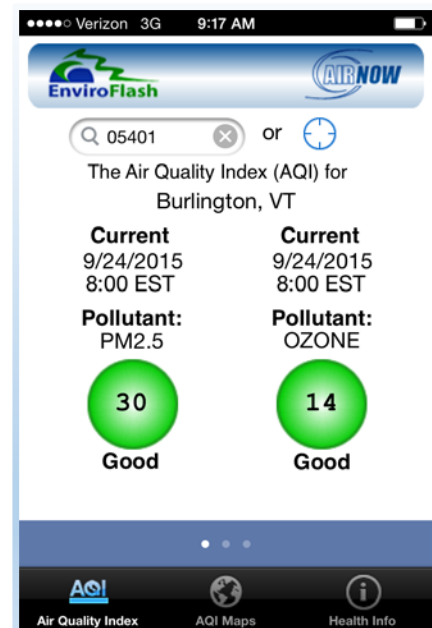
## Air Awareness

By Brian Woods, Department of Environmental Conservation

Tourists are arriving in droves to marvel at Vermont's autumn leaves, taking in the scenic views like a breath of fresh air. Like its leaves, Vermont's air is considered to be among the best in the nation, with the vast majority of the year's air quality forecasts ranked as "good" throughout state. But as we move into heating season, fine particle emissions from furnaces and boilers increase, particularly from the use of wood for fuel. These emissions can become trapped in cold valleys, worsening local air quality and causing potential health problems.

How would you know what the air quality forecast is in your area? There's an app for that!

The Air Quality and Climate Division encourages all Vermonters to become Air Aware and [sign up](#) for the EPA's air quality alerts through the EnviroFlash system. Seniors, those with young children, or people with respiratory ailments may benefit most from the updates. Subscribers receive an e-mail when decreased air quality is forecast, or can receive daily forecasts. There is a companion smartphone app (for Android and iPhone) as well.



Become more air aware!

The current air quality forecasts for Vermont and the region are available at:  
<http://www.anr.state.vt.us/air/Monitoring/cfm/RealTimeData.cfm>

To subscribe to the EnviroFlash air quality notices, visit:  
<http://www.enviroflash.info/>

Historic air quality data is available at EPA's AirData web site:  
<http://www3.epa.gov/airdata/index.html>