

CIVIL DEFENSE AGENCY

Date: April 10, 2008

MEDIA UPDATE

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Update: # 9

Incident: Emergency Health Advisory #9

This is a civil defense message.

This is an information update for Thursday afternoon, April 10, at 4:30.

The Hawaiian Volcano Observatory reports the volcanic emissions of sulfur dioxide fumes from Halema'uma'u and Pu'u 'O'o continues with no change.

The National Weather Service forecasts that trade winds will become stronger and remain with us for the next few days.

Due to the volcanic emissions and the current and forecasted wind conditions, the following are now in effect.

At this time, the district of Ka'u is under code YELLOW status. Color code YELLOW indicates a light level of sulfur dioxide. The health precautions for color code YELLOW is for those in the sensitive group to avoid outdoor activities.

1. Under normal trade wind conditions the residential area down wind and closest to the sulfur dioxide sources of Kilauea is the Ka'u District.
2. All other districts of Hawai'i Island are in color code Green. Green indicates at most, only a trace of sulfur dioxide.
3. All residents of Hawai'i Island but especially areas close to Kilauea are advised to continue being on the alert and prepared. If your area is informed of high sulfur dioxide levels, remember the safest protection is to limit your exposure.
4. Two important reminders for you to know: First, sulfur dioxide levels are highly based on weather conditions and especially wind direction. Second, sulfur dioxide levels do not necessarily coincide with vog levels.

The sulfur dioxide levels will continue to be monitored and if any area reaches high levels, you will be informed. Should information be received of wind conditions that may greatly increase the sulfur dioxide threat to an area, advisories will be issued.

This will be last scheduled update until conditions change.

Thank you for listening and have a safe day.

This is your Hawai'i County Civil Defense.