



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

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Board Memo 054-2023: USPS HQ Summary on Wildfire Smoke (Canada) Affecting the Atlantic Area

Executive Board,

Below is summary of the wildfires that are affecting the Atlantic Area from Rae Ann Haight, Director of National Preparedness.

SITUATION: As wildfires burn in Quebec, Canada, much of the smoke is drifting down into portions of the U.S., spiking air quality levels. “The combination of a stalled high-pressure system over the northern Plains and a stationary low-pressure system of Atlantic Canada has been producing a persistent steering wind from north to south across the region, which has been sending thick plumes of smoke southward into the Northeast, Middle Atlantic and Ohio Valley,” AccuWeather Senior Meteorologist Brett Anderson said. “Since these fires are much closer than the Alberta fires, some of the smoke closer to the ground is able to reach into the Northeast U.S.”

In the Atlantic where the greater concentration is in NY3 District / DE-PA2 District / NJ District / NE Division, letter carriers returned early from the street today Wednesday, 6/7 resulting in some delivery impacts – recorded in DCV.

People:

Several carriers returned early from the street.

1. DE-PA2 – 15; NY3 [A] – 4; NY3 (I) – 17; NY3 (G) – 5, plus carriers from City 8, 14, 17, 22, 23 and R7; NY3 (L) – started pulling carriers off the street (zips 148-149) approx. 2:45PM ET
2. No reported injuries
3. Safety working with local management to address employee concerns, to include voluntary use of masks

Property:

1. 19 offices reported high levels of poor air quality readings before 1500ET
2. No reported damage

Product:

3. Any deliveries not completed on 6/7 were recorded in DCV.
4. Leadership working through all delivery plans

Communication:

1. District EMT, to include Safety and Labor Relations
2. AM and PM Touchpoints
3. Monitoring [Airnow.gov](https://airnow.gov) for air quality levels
4. Wildfire Response Checklists have been distributed

5. Air Quality Safety Talk distributed
6. PANS alert initiated



Thank you, and be safe.

NAPS Headquarters