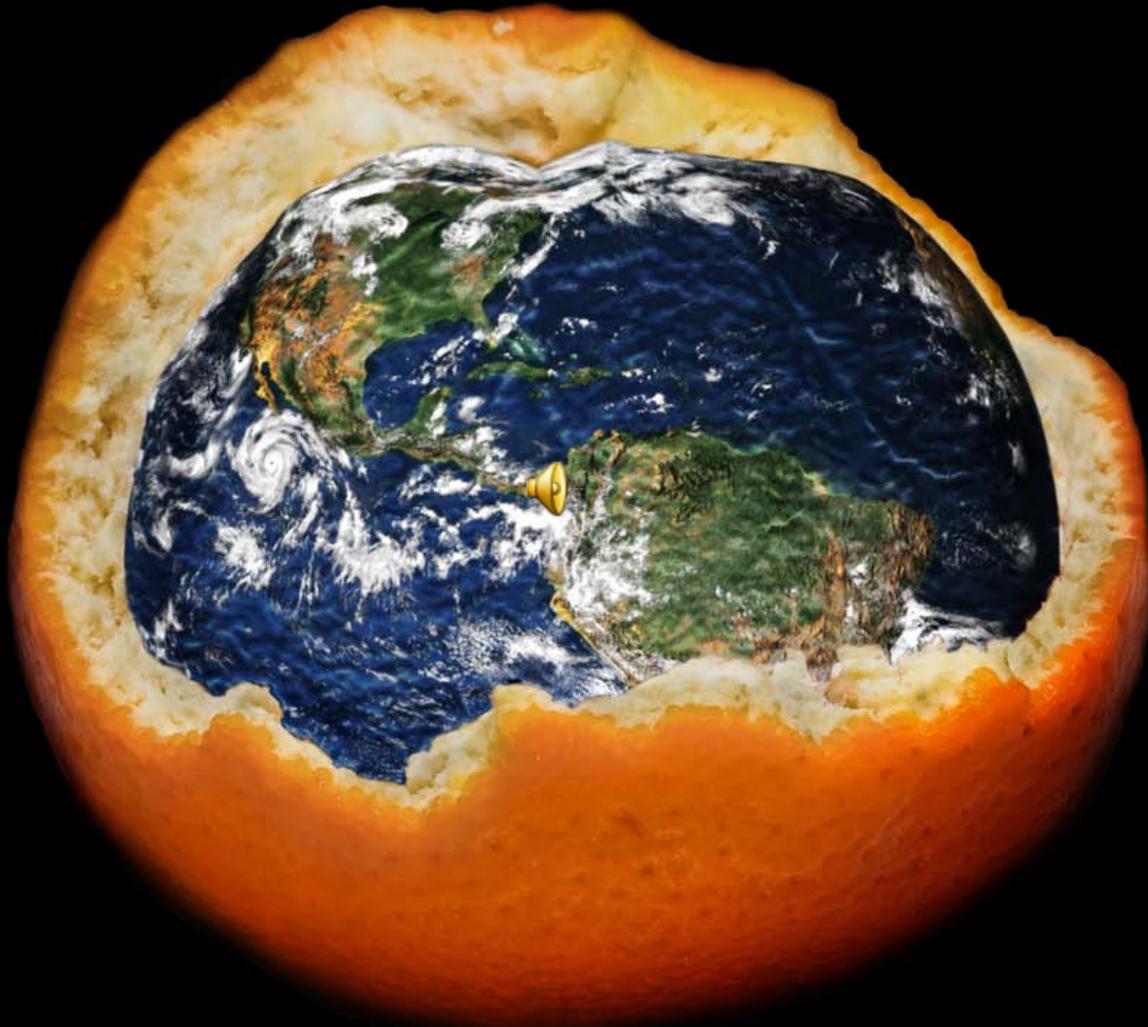


Ozone Season

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April 1st – October 31st

Items that contribute to Ozone



Items that contribute to Ozone



Spilling fuel



**Gas powered
lawn/garden
equipment**



Use of charcoal

Items that contribute to Ozone



Not carpooling

- **Idling at a drive thru restaurant**
- **Idling in traffic**

- **Idling at a carwash**

- **Idling while waiting for your children at their school**



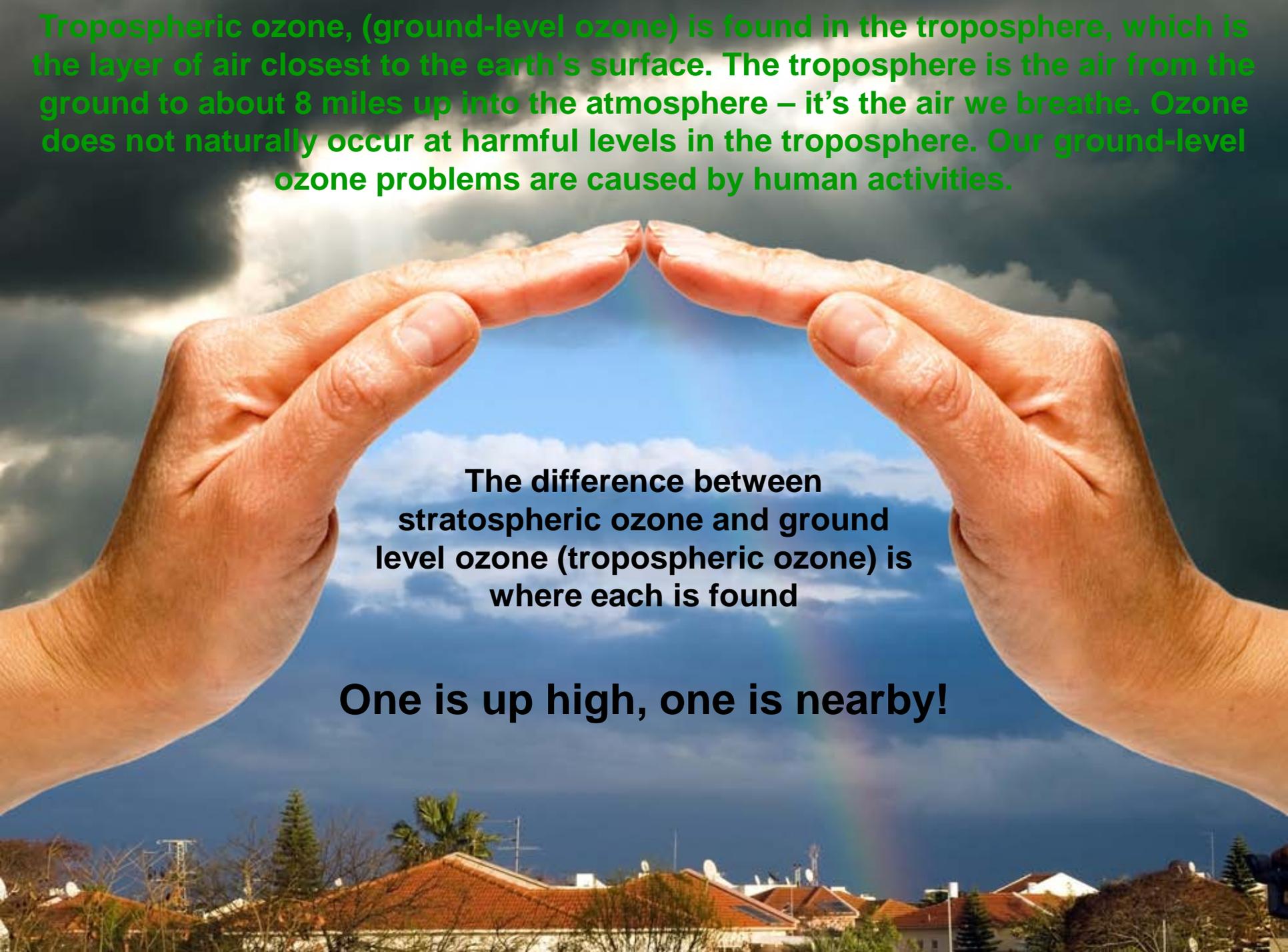
Refueling in the early afternoon instead of in the late evening

The atmosphere of the Earth is divided into layers. Each layer is a little different. Stratospheric ozone is found in the stratosphere, a layer of air way up in the atmosphere. The stratosphere is between 8 and 30 miles above the ground – too far away for you to breathe any of its air! The ozone in this layer of air protects plants, animals, and us by blocking the most harmful rays of the sun.

Stratospheric ozone shields us from the sun's harmful UV or ultraviolet rays.



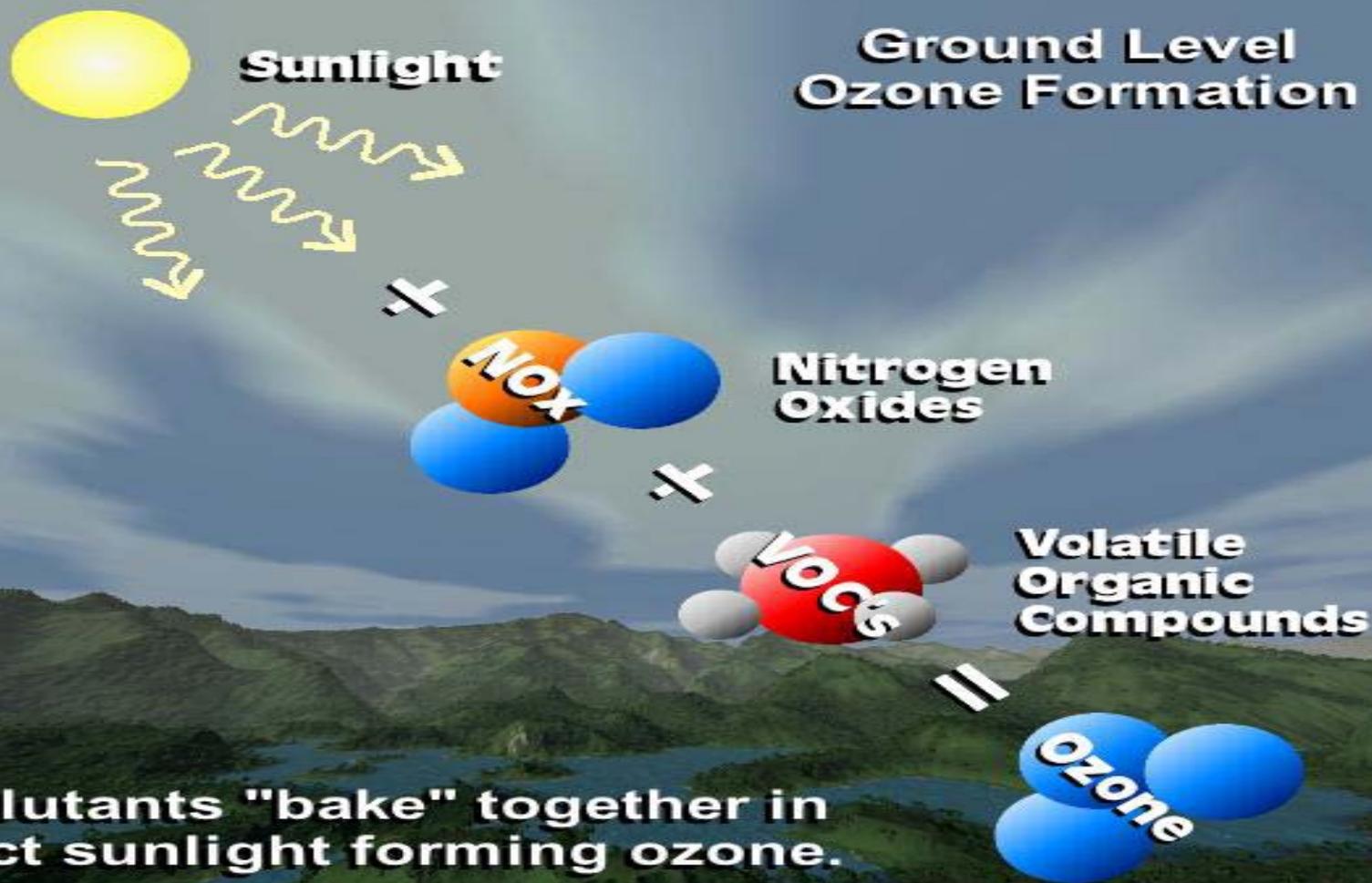
Tropospheric ozone, (ground-level ozone) is found in the troposphere, which is the layer of air closest to the earth's surface. The troposphere is the air from the ground to about 8 miles up into the atmosphere – it's the air we breathe. Ozone does not naturally occur at harmful levels in the troposphere. Our ground-level ozone problems are caused by human activities.

A pair of hands is shown from the sides, with the index fingers pointing towards each other to form a triangular arch. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. A faint rainbow is visible in the distance. At the bottom of the image, the rooftops of several houses with red tiles and some greenery are visible.

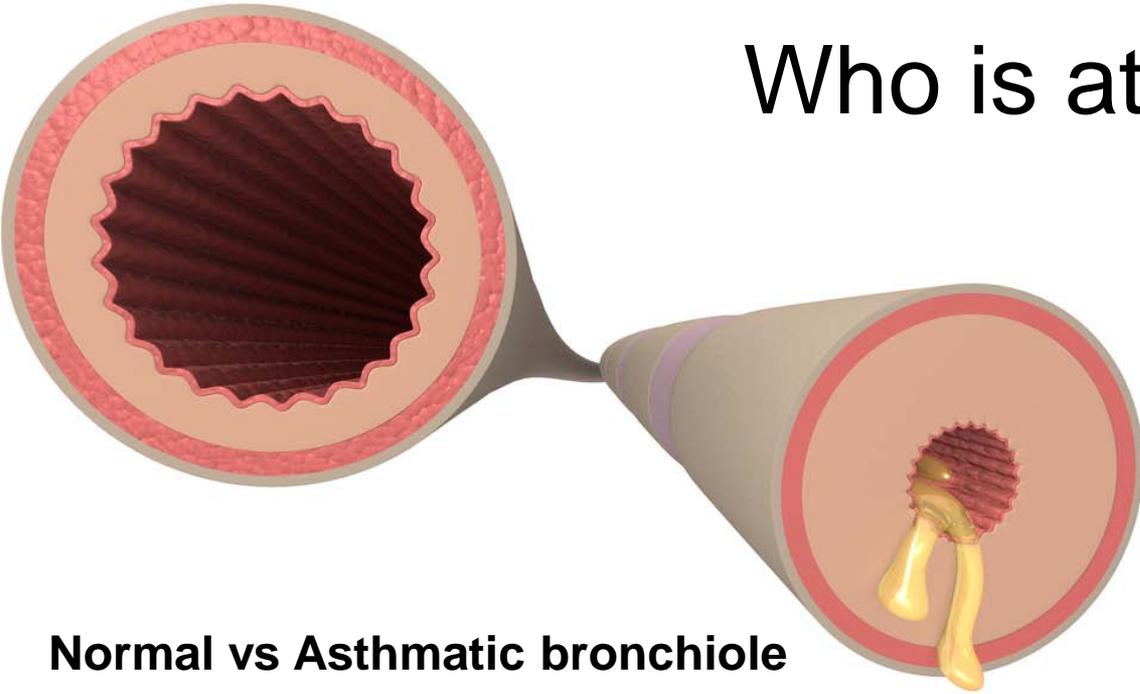
**The difference between
stratospheric ozone and ground
level ozone (tropospheric ozone) is
where each is found**

One is up high, one is nearby!

Tropospheric, ground level ozone, is found close to the earth's surface and is a serious pollutant. It's produced when sunlight combines and reacts with chemicals produced by cars, power plants, factories, and wherever gasoline, diesel fuel, kerosene, oil, or natural gas are combusted. That's why monitors that provide ground-level ozone concentrations tend to be higher in sunnier climates or during hot, still weather. When temperatures are high and there is little wind, ground-level ozone can reach levels that are dangerous to your health.



Who is at risk?



Normal vs Asthmatic bronchiole

Some people are at especially high risk for health problems associated with ozone. These include children, who normally spend a lot of time outdoors in the summer months when ozone is highest; active adults who exercise or work vigorously outdoors; people

with asthma or other respiratory problems; and people who, for reasons unknown to medical science, are simply more susceptible to ozone's effects.

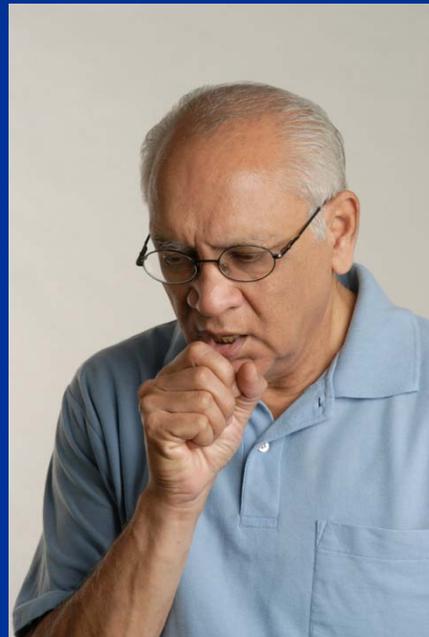
Ground-level ozone interferes with the ability of plants to produce and store food, so that growth, reproduction and overall plant health are compromised. By weakening sensitive vegetation, ozone makes plants more susceptible to disease, pests and environmental stresses. Ozone can kill or damage leaves so that they fall off the plants too soon or become spotted or brown, thus detrimentally affecting the natural beauty of many areas. The effects of ozone on long-lived species such as trees are believed to add up over many years so that whole forests or ecosystems can be affected. Additionally, ozone has been shown to reduce agricultural yields for many economically important crops such as soybeans, kidney beans, wheat, and cotton.



What You can Do To Help!

- Reduce driving & combine trips
- Refuel your vehicle in the late evening
- Avoid using gas-powered lawn & garden equipment
- Avoid idling your vehicle

Telecommute



If you have
breathing
problems, stay
indoors



Limit all
outdoor
activity

Carpool



- Ensure your car's tires are properly inflated & your wheels are aligned
- Be careful not to spill gasoline
- Avoid peak hour travel
- Bring your lunch to work
- Refrain from using charcoal in your barbecue



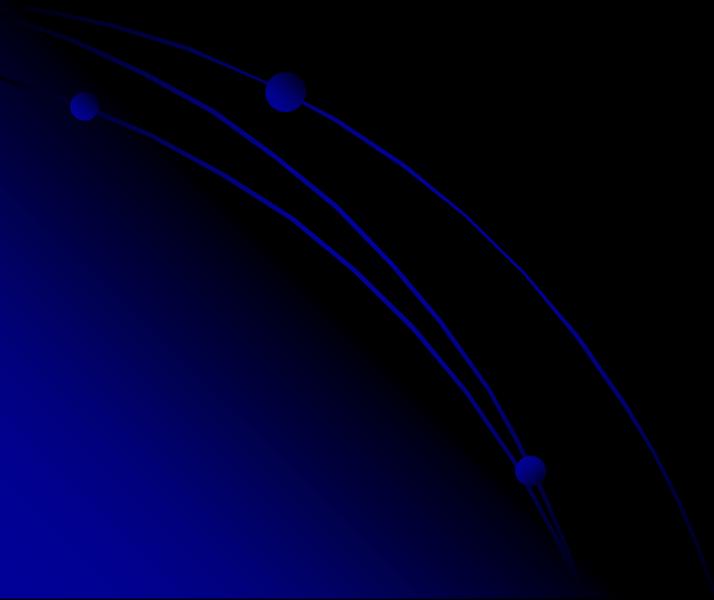
Clean Air is for
everyone!

Clean Air.....Today.....Tomorrow!

Pinal County Air Quality

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