



Sample “Air Quality Code” Articles for Parents/School Newsletters

Sample 1.

What Color is Our Air?

Want to know more about the air you breathe? Just look up and see what color of flag is flying at _____ (your school name) today!

This year, _____ (your school name) has teamed up with the non-profit Clean Air Carolina (CAC) to help raise air quality awareness among students, school staff, parents and the community through its *Clear the Air for Kids!* campaign. The organization has donated a set of air quality flags to our school as a first step in raising awareness in our community about the connection between air quality and children’s health.

Know the Code

When air quality is poor, it causes respiratory problems, especially among children and those already suffering from asthma and other chronic lung illnesses. Our school is encouraging the community to know the code by raising a colored flag in correspondence to the quality of air each given day. By knowing the code, parents, staff and students can alter outdoor activities when air pollution levels are the highest.

Green Flag: Air quality is “good” and considered healthy for everyone. Outdoor activities are okay for everyone.

Yellow Flag: Air quality is “moderate”. Extremely sensitive children and adults such as severe asthmatics and those people with respiratory or heart disease should consider limiting prolonged outdoor exertion.

Orange Flag: Air quality is unhealthy for sensitive people. Sensitive individuals should limit prolonged exertion and alternative indoor activities should be made available for all students.

Red Flag: Air quality is unhealthy for everyone. Sensitive individuals should avoid outdoor activities and alternative should be made available for all students.