



Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District INTRODUCTION to the 2023 Community Air Sensor (CAIRS) Program

Community Air Sensor Program Description

The Community Air Sensor Program (“CAIRS”) is implemented by Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District, with sensor funding provided by California Climate Investments.* Under this program, selected community members volunteer to site and maintain air monitoring sensors at their cost. The sensors require a standard 110 Volt power outlet, wi-fi connection, and occasional cleaning to keep debris away from the sensor’s internal measuring devices.

Who is Eligible to Apply?

Eligible applicants represent community groups that are public-facing. Priority consideration is provided for groups that serve sensitive persons such as the elderly, children, low-income and disadvantaged communities, outdoor workers, and schools. Not eligible for individual use or single-family dwelling. All applicants submit their proposals to the District with the understanding that the selection of sensor recipients by the District is final and subject only to review by the District. Applicants should review the CAIRS Use Agreement for full Program details and requirements.

How to Apply

Applicants must include a brief statement of their eligibility and the community groups that would be served, and then review and sign this Agreement and submit it to the District for consideration. Applicants must complete sections 1 & 8 of the Agreement for the submittal to be accepted. Submissions may be submitted by e-mail at airquality@sonoma-county.org; or dropped-off in the District front door drop box or sent by mail to the District address below.

NSCAPCD
Attn: CAIRS
150 Matheson Street
Healdsburg, CA 95448
Phone (707) 433-5911

* [California Climate Investments](#), is a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities.





Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District 2023 Community Air Sensor (CAIRS) Program USE AGREEMENT

Community Air Sensor Program Description

The Community Air Sensor Program (“CAIRS”) is implemented by Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District (Grantee or DISTRICT), with sensor funding provided by California Climate Investments.* Under this program, selected community members (Grantee) volunteer to site and maintain air monitoring sensors at their cost. The sensors require a standard 110 Volt power outlet, wi-fi connection, and occasional cleaning to keep debris away from the sensor’s internal measuring devices.

Use Agreement Recitals

The Purple Air Brand PM-2.5 sensor is a low-cost sensor that is readily available to the public and can approach the accuracy of a more expensive federal certified monitor when applying US EPA’s correction factor.

The Purple Air sensors are for informational purposes and are not used for regulatory DISTRICT actions that require federal certified monitors. The Purple Air sensors are useful indicators of air quality but inherent to their lower cost technology they can have accuracy limitations due to excessive dust, salt, moisture, and they can overestimate during high pollution events.

The DISTRICT’S recommended tool to view sensor data is EPA’s sponsored Fire and Smoke Map, that automatically applies a US EPA correction factor, at the site: fire.airnow.gov. When using the sensors to review air quality, be sure to consider as many nearby sensors and monitors as available in case there is a hyperlocal incident which is not representative of ambient air quality.

Low-cost sensors, such as those provided under this Program are not a replacement for personal health care or advisement of a health care professional. Persons sensitive to wildfire smoke or PM-2.5 should talk to their health care provider and prepare a course of action for potential air quality events before they occur.

Terms and Conditions of Agreement

1. **Use.** The Grantee is offered (1) Purple Air sensor to participate in the DISTRICT's Community Air Sensor (CAIRS) Program within the DISTRICT territory, located at _____ (Reference DISTRICT territory online at www.NoSoCoAir.org). The Grantee is deploying the sensor for the DISTRICT for no cost. The Grantee shall endeavor to operate and maintain the sensor for a nominal time period of two years, after which time the Grantee may keep the sensor or return it to the DISTRICT. The only requirement for utilization is to comply with this Agreement and to properly dispose of damaged sensors according to locally applicable E-waste requirements.
2. **Utilization of Web Based System.** Under this Program, the Grantee recognizes that the sensor data is best utilized on web sites or applications that utilize the EPA correction factor such as Fire.airnow.gov. The accuracy of the Purple Air sensors declines and is more variable without the EPA correction factor.
3. **Registration of Sensor.** Under this Program, the Grantee shall name and register the sensor on the Purple Air web site www.purpleair.com/register. The sensor registration is necessary so the data will be publicly available via airnow, fire.airnow, purple air, smoke spotter, and other applications. A video tutorial of the registration process is available on the registration page and at <https://youtu.be/cOZgyDRFc4U>.
 - a. Registration settings shall include:
 - i. Sensor shall be named in the following convention: "NSCAPCD - *location descriptor*".
 - ii. Sensor shall be installed "Outside" with visibility set to "Public."
 - iii. Sensor shall be activated with the associated email: airquality@sonoma-county.org.
 - iv. The Grantee shall use their name and email for owner's name and address.
 - b. Please email the Granter at airquality@sonoma-county.org when the sensor is registered and available online.
4. **Locating the Sensor.** Because PM-2.5 is a fine particulate, it is fairly well mixed and distributed in the ambient air, and the Purple Air sensor may be placed in many locations to achieve representative PM-2.5 measurements. However, it is important to appropriately site the sensor following manufacturer installation guidelines at <https://community.purpleair.com/t/sensor-installation/3755>. The grantee shall maintain and site the Purple Air sensor by placing it away from direct sources of vented air (eg: dryer outlet; Air conditioning unit; etc.); away from direct pollution sources (eg: automobile exhaust pipes; wood burning chimneys; etc.) and at least 3 feet off the ground.

5. **DISTRICT Recall.** The DISTRICT may recall a sensor as necessary, including malfunction, misuse, or lack of maintenance or for other reason.

6. **Sensor Damage or Failure.** If the Grantee damages or ruins the sensor, the Grantee shall notify the DISTRICT and return the sensor, upon which time this Agreement shall automatically terminate. The DISTRICT may opt to replace a damaged sensor pending program sensor inventory but does not guarantee a replacement sensor.

7. **Indemnification.** The Grantee agrees to accept all responsibility for loss or damage to any person or entity, including but not limited to the DISTRICT, California Air Resources Board (CARB) and California Climate Investments and to defend, indemnify, hold harmless, reimburse and release such parties, their officers, agents, and employees, from and against any and all actions, claims, damages, disabilities, liabilities and expense including, but not limited to attorneys' fees and the cost of litigation incurred in the defense of claims as to which this indemnity applies or incurred in an action by the DISTRICT, CARB, and CCSI to enforce the indemnity provisions herein, whether arising from personal injury, property damage or economic loss of any type, that may be asserted by any person or entity, including the Usership, arising out of or in connection with the performance of the Sensors hereunder, whether or not there is concurrent negligence on the part of the DISTRICT, CARB, and CCSI, but, to the extent required by law, excluding liability due to the sole or active negligence or due to the willful misconduct of the DISTRICT, CARB, and CCSI. This indemnification obligation is not limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages or compensation payable to or for the Grantee or its agents under workers' compensation acts, disability benefits acts, or other employee benefit acts.

8. **Notice.** Notices about this Agreement shall be given via email at the address below, or by calling the numbers listed below.

DISTRICT:

NSCAPCD	Attn: CAIR
Email:	airquality@sonoma-county.org
Phone:	707-433-5911

Grantee:

Name:	_____
Email:	_____
Phone:	_____

9. **Cancellation.** If for any reason the Grantee no longer wants the sensor, they are required to drop the sensor at the DISTRICT office. Once a sensor is received, this Agreement will automatically terminate.
10. **Successors and Assigns.** This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the executors, personal representatives, heirs, devisees, legatees, successors and assigns of the Parties hereto provided.
11. **Entire Agreement.** Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement of the Parties and memorializes all past and present written and oral agreements and supersedes all prior agreements; and, no statements, promises, or inducements made by either Party that are not contained in this Agreement.
12. **Assignment.** Grantee may assign its obligations without the need for consent of the DISTRICT if the Grantee is changing residence or has sold the property, and the new resident or owner wishes to continue the use of the Sensor. Otherwise, the Sensor shall be returned to the DISTRICT by the Grantee.
13. **Captions.** The captions of any articles, paragraphs or sections hereof are made for convenience only and shall not control or affect the meaning or construction of any other provision hereof and pursuant to the rules of construction, each section shall be known by its plain meaning.
14. **Severability.** The invalidity or unenforceability of any particular provision of this Agreement, or portion thereof shall not affect the other provisions or portions thereof; and this Agreement shall be construed in all respects as if any such invalid or unenforceable provisions or portions thereof were omitted and this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
15. **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be signed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which together shall constitute one and the same document. Facsimile or electronically signed copies shall be deemed to be originals.
16. **Further Acts.** Each Party agrees to cooperate and perform any further acts and to execute, acknowledge and deliver any customary documents which may be reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this Agreement.

Granter (PRINT NAME)	Granter (SIGNATURE)	DATE
Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District		

Grantee (PRINT NAME)	Grantee (SIGNATURE)	DATE
Sensor Program Participant		

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