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## *What Happens if Excessive Dust is Reported*

*When someone reports excessive dust from agricultural activities a government inspector may come out to investigate the problem. The inspector may ask you or your employer questions about the activities that caused the excessive dust. It is important to use best management practices (BMPs) to reduce dust during farming activities and comply with the law.*



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*This document is available in alternate formats by contacting the agency's ADA Coordinator at (602) 542-4316 Voice) or 1-800-367-3839 (TTY Relay)*

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## **Air Quality Regulation for Agriculture**



*Produced by the  
Agricultural Consultation and  
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(602) 542-3484*

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## How Dust Affects Your Health

*Certain areas of Arizona do not meet the federal air quality standard for “particulate matter” (dust). Particulate matter or dust is referred to as PM10 because of the tiny size of the particles. These particles are inhaled and can cause health problems for everyone. Exposure to unhealthy levels of PM10 can aggravate the lungs, increase asthma attacks and reduce the body’s ability to fight infections.*

## Dust in the Air

*PM10 is a major part of air pollution. It is responsible for much of the hazy visibility and can come from smoke, vehicle exhaust and activities that disturb the soil. Agricultural dust can come from activities such as:*

*Land leveling*

*Disking the fields*

*Planting crops*

*Tilling and harvesting*

*Driving on unpaved farm roads*

## Some Ways to Comply with the Law

*Current regulation for agriculture requires the farm owners and operators to use “best management practices” (BMPs) to control dust .*

*Some ways you can help comply with the law is to:*

*Drive 20 mph or less on unpaved farm roads*

*Combine tractor operations to reduce field passes*

*Stop field activities when winds are over 25 mph*

*Remove mud and soil from farm equipment using a gravel track-out pad*

## Get Involved in the Efforts to Reduce Air Pollution

*Learn about the best management practices (BMPs) your employer is doing to reduce dust . Your employer can advise you on what you need to do to comply with the law. If everyone does their share to reduce air pollution it can make a difference.*

