# Poor Air Quality Interventions



#### Clinicians and Community Health Workers

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- Encourage patients with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) to plan and prepare for poor outdoor air quality
- Raise awareness of air pollution-related health risks
- Encourage patients to pay attention to daily air quality forecasts and monitor local air quality by using MassDEP's MassAIR online and EPA's AirNow
- Encourage patients to exercise indoors on poor air quality days or try to avoid busy traffic times if exercising

outdoors
Resource Links:

MA DPH Program for
Pediatric Asthma

Climate-Enhanced
Community Profile

MA Asthma Resources

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Resource Links: MA DPH Program for Pediatric Asthma | Climate Enhanced Community Profile | MA Asthma Resources

#### Local Governments and Health Departments

# Local Government and Health Departments

- Identify and map vulnerable locations and populations in your community
- Organize clean air centers for use during poor air quality days and provide transportation for vulnerable residents
- Support and promote community-based traffic mitigation projects, such as Complete Streets
- Invest in local clean energy projects for public buildings and schools

Resource Links:

MassAir Online

Complete Streets Funding
Program

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Resource Links: MassAir Online | MA Asthma Resources | Complete Streets Funding Program

#### Individuals

### **Individuals**

- Be aware of daily air quality forecasts
- Limit time exercising and recreating outside during poor air quality events
- Plan tasks ahead of time and combine multiple chores into one car trip
- Increase use of public transportation and carpools, and consider biking or walking for short errands

Resource Links: MassAir Online MA Asthma Resources

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Resource Links: MassAir Online | MA Asthma Resources

#### **Community-Based Organizations**

## **Community-Based Organizations**

- Monitor air quality and send alerts on poor air quality days
- Offer wellness checks for vulnerable people during poor air quality events
- Educate your community on safe places to go during poor air quality events

Resource Links:

Reducing the Health
Impacts of Poor Air

US CDC Air Pollution
Webpage

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Resource Links: Reducing the Health Impacts of Poor Air Quality | Climate-Enhanced Community Profile | US CDC Air Pollution Webpage