



News Release

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Respirator Masks



Respirator masks, labeled N95 or N100 can provide some protection from wildfire smoke during poor air quality conditions. These masks can commonly be purchased at hardware and home repair stores and pharmacies for about \$10-\$20 per box of 20 masks as well as online.

In addition, a number of agencies in Washington have these masks available for free. Free masks have been distributed in the community by Chelan County Emergency Management, Okanogan County Public Health, Chelan Douglas Health District, Douglas County Emergency Management and the Colville Tribe.

Please note that the mask must be type N 95 or N 100 to be helpful.

If you have existing health or breathing issues, you should check with a doctor before using a mask, you might find it can make breathing more difficult.

Further instructions on using a mask are available here:

English: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/334-353.pdf>

Español: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/Pubs/334-353-SP.pdf>

More Information:

<http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/enviwa/>

<http://www.cdhd.wa.gov/>