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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Air Quality Advisory: Masks Available in Genesee and Orleans Counties**

The New York State Department of Health recommends that with the reduced air quality, everyone should limit their outdoor activities to reduce exposure. Masks will be available to the public at the following locations in Genesee and Orleans Counties on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, during normal business hours **until supplies last.**

**Genesee County- Business Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm**

- Emergency Management Office, 7690 State Street Road, Batavia, NY 14020
- Old Courthouse, 7 Main Street, Batavia, NY 14020

**Orleans County- Business Hours: 8:30am-4:00pm**

- Orleans County Administration Building, 14016 Route 31 West, Albion, NY 14411

The New York State Department of Health provides the following tips to stay safe:

- Limit time outdoors
- Keep windows and doors closed
- Avoid strenuous activities outdoors, especially for those with asthma, allergies, and other respiratory health issues
- Avoid prolonged exposure outdoors, especially for those with health vulnerabilities, such as cardiovascular disease or lung disease, and those who are pregnant
- For those that must be outside for a prolonged period of time, wear a tight fitting mask

Exposure to the reduced air quality can pose negative health risks, including:

- Irritation to eyes, nose, or throat
- Coughing
- Sneezing
- Runny nose

- Shortness of breath

Individuals with symptoms or related health concerns should contact their healthcare provider.

To monitor the Air Quality Index (AQI) Forecast, visit the [Department of Environmental Conservation Website](#).

To monitor the current Air Quality for your area, visit the [EPA AirNow website](#).

To access the Fire and Smoke Map, visit the [AirNow Website](#).

For more information, residents can call the New York State Air Quality Hotline at 1-800-535-1345.

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