



UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCES IN RESPIRATORS, MASKS, & FACE COVERINGS With Wildfire Smoke Present

PRESENTED BY: Mendocino County Air Quality Management District
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N95 & Surgical Respirators ARE TIGHT FITTING WITH MINIMAL LEAKAGE

⊗ INTENDED USER: ESSENTIAL & HEALTHCARE WORKERS

- ⇒ Protects wearer from airborne particles & liquid contaminating the face
- ⇒ Protects others from wearer's respiratory droplets (no valve on mask)
- ⇒ Protects wearer from smoke
(reuse in smoky conditions may reduce efficiency & impede breathing)



N95 respirator mask

Surgical Masks ARE LOOSE FITTING AND HAVE EXTENSIVE LEAKAGE

⊗ INTENDED USER: HEALTHCARE WORKERS & PATIENTS

- ⇒ Protects wearer by blocking large particles that may contain germs
- ⇒ Protects others from wearer's respiratory droplets



Surgical mask

Comfort Masks ARE LOOSE FITTING AND HAVE EXTENSIVE LEAKAGE

⊗ INTENDED USER: GENERAL PUBLIC

- ⇒ Protects wearer by offering relief from particles like dust or pollen
- ⇒ Protects others from wearer's respiratory droplets



Cloth Facial Coverings ARE LOOSE FITTING AND HAVE EXTENSIVE LEAKAGE

⊗ INTENDED USER: GENERAL PUBLIC

- ⇒ Protects wearer by blocking large particles that may contain germs
- ⇒ Protects others from wearer's respiratory droplets
- ⇒ May be laundered & reused



'CLEAN AIR ROOMS': AN EFFECTIVE SMOKE SOLUTION

Consider creating a 'clean air room' in your residence to help reduce exposure to dangerous or unhealthy wildfire smoke by following these steps:

1. Choose a room
2. Prevent smoke from entering the room
3. Stay cool & filter the air
4. Avoid activities that create smoke or other particles indoors
5. Spend as much time as possible in the 'clean room'

