

Microsoft®

encarta

greeting cards

more

| MSN home

| Mail

| My MSN

| Sign in



encarta®

Search Encarta

Web

| Home

| Encyclopedia

| Dictionary

| Atlas

| K-12 Success

| College & Grad School

| Degrees &

Training

| Quizzes

| More

Related Items

- Air Pollution
- Acid Rain
- more...

Encarta Search

Search Encarta about **Smog**

Give us feedback

View recently updated articles

Smog

Encyclopedia Article

[Find](#) | [Print](#) | [E-mail](#) | [Blog It](#)

Multimedia



1 item

Smog, mixture of solid and liquid fog and smoke particles formed when humidity is high and the air so calm that smoke and fumes accumulate near

Advertisement



Microsoft®

Windows Live® Search Results

[Smog - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia](#)

Smog is a kind of air pollution; the word "smog" is a portmanteau of smoke and fog. Classic smog results from large amounts of coal burning in an area caused by a mixture of smoke ...

[smog.net](#)

This is smog.net, and that's it. ... recent comments mjp said: No, no, he's 14. Not 12. Not 12 at all. Jesus, what are you trying to do, get... ~ Good artists borrow, great artists ...

[smog - definition of smog by the Free Online Dictionary, Thesaurus and ...](#)

smog (sm g, smög) n. 1. Fog that has become mixed and polluted with smoke. 2. A form of air pollution produced by the photochemical reaction of sunlight with hydrocarbons and ...

their source.

[See all search results in Windows Live® Search Results](#)

Smog reduces

Also on Encarta

natural visibility

· [Important Notice: MSN Encarta to be discontinued. Learn more.](#)

and often

· [Presidential Myths Quiz](#)

irritates the eyes and respiratory tract. In dense urban areas, the death rate usually goes up considerably during prolonged periods of smog, particularly when a process of heat inversion creates a smog-trapping ceiling over a city. Smog occurs most often in and near coastal cities and is an especially severe problem in Los Angeles and Tokyo.

Smog prevention requires control of smoke from furnaces; reduction of fumes from metal-working and other industrial plants; and control of noxious emissions from automobiles, trucks, and incinerators. In the U.S. internal-combustion engines are regarded as the largest contributors to the smog problem, emitting large amounts of contaminants, including unburned hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen. The number of undesirable components in smog, however, is considerable, and the proportions highly variable. They include ozone, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen cyanide, and

hydrocarbons and their products formed by partial oxidation. Fuel obtained from fractionation of coal and petroleum produces sulfur dioxide, which is oxidized by atmospheric oxygen, forming sulfur trioxide (SO_3). Sulfur trioxide is in turn hydrated by the water vapor in the atmosphere to form sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4).

The so-called photochemical smog, which irritates sensitive membranes and damages plants, is formed when nitrogen oxides in the atmosphere undergo reactions with the hydrocarbons energized by ultraviolet and other radiations from the sun. *See [Air Pollution](#).*

More from Encarta

College degrees and career training

Explore online and on-campus programs.
[Learn how to get that degree!](#)

Recharge your brain

We serve up a heady brew of Encarta's best.
[Check out Coffee Break.](#)

Are you a somniphobe?

Fear of sleep keeps some people awake.
[Check out our list of 20 things you didn't know about sleep.](#)



Find



Print



E-mail



Blog It

Rate this article



(low)

(high)

How to cite this article:

"Smog," Microsoft® Encarta® Online Encyclopedia 2009
http://encarta.msn.com © 1997-2009 Microsoft Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

© 1993-2009 Microsoft Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

More from Encarta

- [Important Notice: MSN Encarta to be discontinued. Learn more.](#)
- [Presidential Myths Quiz](#)
- [Coffee break: Recharge your brain](#)

Feedback

At Encarta, we welcome feedback from our customers. You can send general comments in the box below.