

Kansas Field Office Technical Guide – Section II

Special Environmental Concerns

1. Clean Air Act

Authority: The Clean Air Act of 1990

The Clean Air Act is the law that defines EPA's responsibilities for protecting and improving the nation's air quality and the stratospheric ozone layer. The last major change in the law, the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, was enacted by Congress in 1990. Legislation passed since then has made several minor changes.

The Clean Air Act, like other laws enacted by Congress, was incorporated into the [United States Code](#) as Title 42, Chapter 85. The House of Representatives maintains a current version of the U.S. Code, which includes Clean Air Act changes enacted since 1990.

To view the “Clean Air Act” visit <http://www.epa.gov/air/caa/>

The [Clean Air Act](#), which was last amended in 1990, requires EPA to set [National Ambient Air Quality Standards](#) (40 CFR part 50) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. There are standards set for six principal pollutants, which are called "criteria" pollutants. They are listed below. Units of measure for the standards are parts per million (ppm) by volume, parts per billion (ppb) by volume, and micrograms per cubic meter of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).

National Ambient Air Quality Standards

Pollutant [final rule cite]	Primary/ Secondary	Averaging Time	Level	Form	
Carbon Monoxide [76 FR 54294, Aug 31, 2011]	primary	8-hour	9 ppm	Not to be exceeded more than once per year	
		1-hour	35 ppm		
Lead [73 FR 66964, Nov 12, 2008]	primary and secondary	Rolling 3 month average	0.15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (1)	Not to be exceeded	
Nitrogen Dioxide [75 FR 6474, Feb 9, 2010] [61 FR 52852, Oct 8, 1996]	primary	1-hour	100 ppb	98th percentile, averaged over 3 years	
	primary and secondary	Annual	53 ppb (2)	Annual Mean	
Ozone [73 FR 16436, Mar 27, 2008]	primary and secondary	8-hour	0.075 ppm (3)	Annual fourth-highest daily maximum 8-hr concentration, averaged over 3 years	
Particle Pollution Dec 14, 2012	PM _{2.5}	primary	Annual	12 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	annual mean, averaged over 3 years
		secondary	Annual	15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	annual mean, averaged over 3 years
	PM ₁₀	primary and secondary	24-hour	35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	98th percentile, averaged over 3 years
		primary and secondary	24-hour	150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Not to be exceeded more than once per year on average over 3 years
Sulfur Dioxide [75 FR 35520, Jun 22, 2010] [38 FR 25678, Sept 14, 1973]	primary	1-hour	75 ppb (4)	99th percentile of 1-hour daily maximum concentrations, averaged over 3 years	
	secondary	3-hour	0.5 ppm	Not to be exceeded more than once per year	

Nonattainment areas are areas that have failed to meet federal standards for ambient air quality. In Kansas, there is only one; Saline County is at nonattainment level for Lead. Kansas NRCS conservation practices will have No Effect on this standard.

To view the State of Kansas 2013-14 Ambient Air Monitoring and Network Plan go to http://www.kdheks.gov/bar/air-monitor/2013-2014_Kansas_Ambient_Air_Monitoring_Network_Plan.pdf

To access "[Agricultural Air Quality Conservation Measures Reference Guide for Cropping Systems and General Land Management](#)" cited on FS1, go to the [EPA Agriculture and Air Quality page](#).