

Houston gets iPhone app with up-to-date smog data

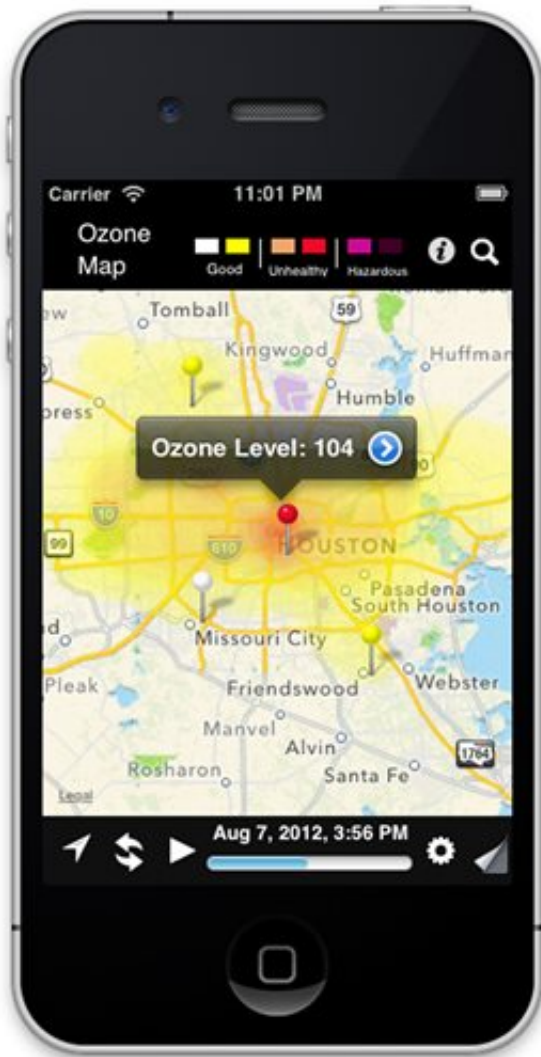
April 2 2013



This Oct. 2, 2008 file photo show smog shrouding downtown Houston. Houston residents now can have in their pocket the answer to whether ozone levels in the city are too high for their asthmatic child to play soccer. A new app available for iPhones and Android smartphones collects data from 74 air and wind monitors throughout the Houston area, giving residents nearly real-time data on smog. (AP Photo/David J. Phillip, File)

(AP)—Houston residents now can have in their pocket the answer to whether ozone levels in the city are too high for their asthmatic child to play soccer.

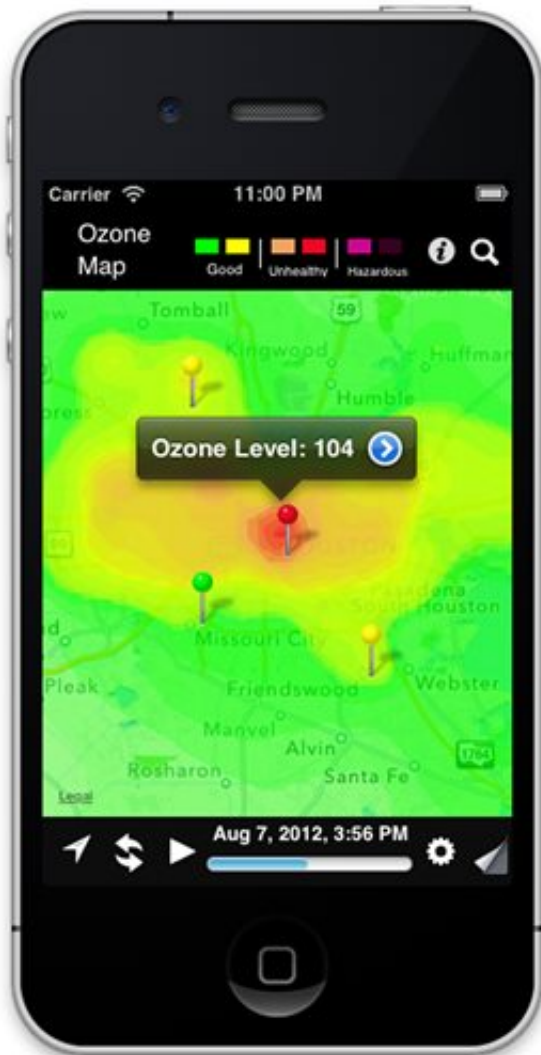
A new app available for iPhones and Android smartphones collects data from 74 air and wind monitors throughout the Houston area, giving residents nearly real-time data on smog.



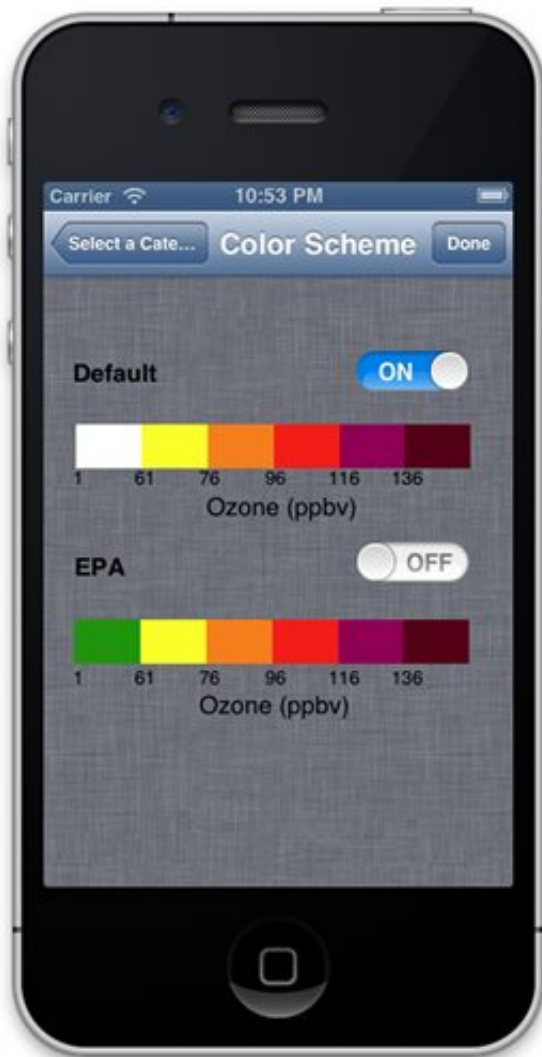
This screenshot provided by the University of Houston taken November 3, 2012 shows a new app available for iPhones and Android smartphones. The Houston Ozone Map app collects data from 74 air and wind monitors throughout the Houston area, giving residents nearly real-time data on smog. (AP Photo, University of Houston)

The app was developed by the Houston Air Alliance, the University of Houston and the American Lung Association.

Houston has some of the highest [ozone levels](#) in the country.



This screenshot provided by the University of Houston taken November 3, 2012 shows a new app available for iPhones and Android smartphones. The Houston Ozone Map app collects data from 74 air and wind monitors throughout the Houston area, giving residents nearly real-time data on smog. (AP Photo, University of Houston)



This screenshot provided by the University of Houston taken November 3, 2012 shows a page in a new app available for iPhones and Android smartphones. The Houston Ozone Map app collects data from 74 air and wind monitors throughout the Houston area, giving residents nearly real-time data on smog. (AP Photo, University of Houston)

Scientists and doctors say air pollution exacerbates asthma and other [respiratory illnesses](#).

Interim Air Alliance director Larry Soward says the Houston Ozone Map app is unique because the data is minutes old. Most other similar apps use data that is more than an hour old.

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