

Small storm brings needed rainfall, improved air quality to the Valley

By Rory
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A small storm system on Thursday brought a much-needed drizzle to the Valley and brief respite from terrible air quality. But Valley residents can stash the umbrellas and raincoats, because no more rain is due until at least Tuesday, the National Weather Service in Hanford said.

Fresno registered 0.02 inches of rain, while Madera collected 0.14 inches. The highest concentration of rainfall hit Merced, which registered 0.23 inches. Hanford and Visalia each reported trace amounts of rain.

The National Weather Service doesn't forecast any chance of rain until Tuesday, when a similar storm will blow through the northern part of the Valley and will bring about a 20% chance of rain.

Valley temperatures are expected to hold steady in the upper 60s into next week.

Fresno's air quality held steady at the moderate level throughout Thursday after several days at very unhealthy level in the last few weeks.

The National Weather Service also predicted some snowfall above 9,000 feet in Yosemite. The park closed Tioga Road Thursday night in anticipation of the snow.

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