

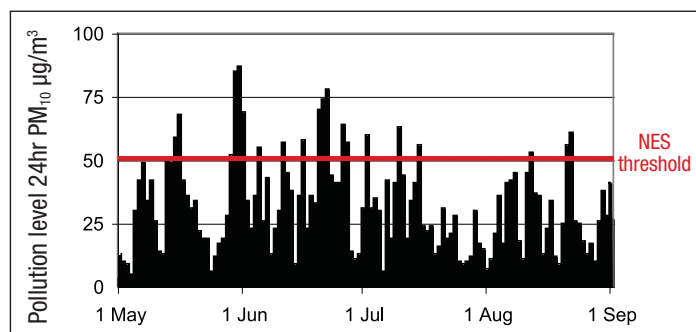
Every winter high air pollution levels affect the health of many Kaiapoi and Rangiora residents. Old woodburners and open fires are the main cause of this pollution which typically happens on cold, still nights.

So how bad was the air pollution this year?

### Kaiapoi

The number of days with high air pollution was the same as last winter (20 days in both 2008 and 2007). In the past Kaiapoi has had between 17-39 high pollution nights a year. The windy and cloudy weather in June and July kept the number of high pollution days down this year.

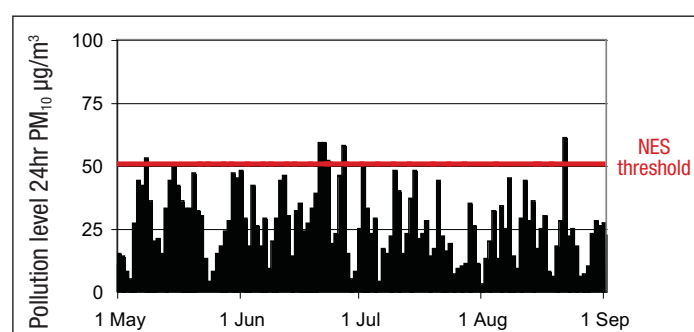
The highest concentration was  $87\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  compared to  $104\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  last year. The National Environmental Standard (NES) for Air has set a maximum of  $50\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and only one exceedence per year is allowed by 2013.



### Rangiora

The number of days with high air pollution was higher than last winter (7 days in 2008, 4 in 2007). In the past Rangiora has had between 6-15 high pollution days a year.

The highest concentration was  $61\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  compared to  $107\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  last winter. The National Environmental Standard for Air has set a maximum of  $50\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and only one exceedence per year is allowed by 2013.



### The future for woodburners and open fires

New rules restricting the use of woodburners and open fires have been proposed and you cannot install a woodburner in a new home. Interest-free loans are available for eligible households for the replacement of old burners and open fires.

Environment Canterbury is working with local councils and communities to clear the air.

For more information about financial assistance available, visit [www.cleanheat.org.nz](http://www.cleanheat.org.nz) or call 0800 329 276