

App State Researchers Study Aerosol Pollution's Impact on Environment

Written by Adam Hicks

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A team of researchers from Appalachian State is monitoring air quality and atmospheric conditions to learn how they affect the area's ecosystems and climate.

According to Appalachian Today, the project is called AppalAIR, which stands for Appalachian Atmospheric Interdisciplinary Research. Researchers are working at the campus' highest point, which is about 3,500 feet above sea level.

The monitoring station includes a 98-foot tower that is the only monitoring site east of the Mississippi River that has been invited to work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's global network of aerosol monitoring stations.

Appalachian Today also reports the southeastern United States is considered to be the polluted area in the country when it comes to aerosols and officials are interested in the aerosols' impact on climate, plant, and human health.

The AppalAIR project was funded by the NOAA, the National Science Foundation, the N.C. Space Grant consortium, and App State's College of Arts and Sciences.

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