Weather Whys: Air Quality and Weather.

Q: Does air quality affect the by burning fossil fuels, such as fast pollution is dispersed, says

A: Air pollution is mainly caused

gasoline or coal, but the weather can make a big difference in how

Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University.

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"For example, when there are periods of high pressure during the summer months, the air can remain stable and not move much at all, causing some people to have severe breathing problems, he explains. "This is when ozone alerts are given. One recent study shows that kids who played outside when ozone levels were high had a higher rate of developing asthma.

Q: What is in the air that affects air quality?

A: It ranges from carbon monoxide, lead, ozone, sulfur dioxide and numerous other pollutants McRoberts adds. "All of these are very harmful to people who have breathing problems. But this happens all over the world," he says. "Mexico City, for example, has some of the worst air on Earth, as does Beijing, Buenos Aires and even Cairo. In London during the 1950s, a cloud of pollution hung over the city for days, resulting in at least 4,000 deaths, leading to the passage of a Clean Air Act. Air pollution has been around a long time and will likely be a problem for years to come in some areas.

Dear Readers,

I have received approval by the U.S. Postal Service to begin a monthly print edition of The Pulse, beginning in January 2014.

The print editions will not be printed the same week of each month. The schedule will depend on holidays and other happenings.

And, I am working on a website. I hope to have it up and running in a month or so. I am planning to have the print editions on the website, and also post new stories through the month.

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I will notify readers in The Pulse print edition of the website's launch.

For the time being, payment will be by check. Once the website is up and running, one may pay for the online edition through Paypal, and perhaps print as well, if you, the subscriber so

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