



Pollen covering Carolinas, causing early allergy season

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SURFSIDE BEACH--The yellow green cloud fogs the horizon and then covers everything in its midst.

It's like this every spring but some say it's worse this year.

"The wet winter has made the trees happy and that has led to a lot of growth and very active pollination season," said [Dr. Mark Schecker](#), an allergist in Surfside Beach

The [S.C. Forestry Commission](#) is even telling people not to mow their lawns if they don't have to.

Pollen from pine and oak trees covers [Shirley](#) and Dennis Bell's home.

Landscapers next door try to blow the pollen away, but the Bells say it just keeps coming back.

"We just hope it would hurry up and go away. We've had enough," said [Shirley Bell](#).

Local carwashes aren't complaining though. Workers at Turbowash in [Myrtle Beach](#) say cars have been coming frequently over the past few weeks.

"With all the pollen, we're going to have an extra person here to do the wheels and tires and take the bugs off, along with the pollen," said [Joe Bendell](#), an attendant at Turbowash.

[Dr. Schecker](#) says he's seen a big increase in patients with allergy problems over the last few weeks.

He says people can do simple things like shut their windows and turn their air condition on or even take medication if they need it.

"Or if you're not somebody who likes medication and you'd rather try to get rid of your problem then the treatment for you would be allergy shots or what we like to call allergy vaccines. That treatment is the only treatment that can get rid of allergies," said [Schecker](#).

But there's nothing that can get rid of the pollen.

Health experts say it will be a nuisance for the next month.