

VALLEY AIR NEWS

A publication of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
April 2010

May underscores cycling and environmental health

The month of April focuses on environmental protection with many Earth Day celebrations worldwide, and this year marks the event's 40th anniversary. However, April is not the only month which highlights the importance of environmental stewardship.

May is an environmental awareness month as well, underscoring air quality and its impact on public health. Accordingly, May is Clean Air Month, National Bike Month, and Asthma Awareness Month.

May 4 is World Asthma Day and is organized by the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA) to improve asthma awareness and care around the world. Air pollution is a trigger for asthma sufferers, making air quality an important aspect of asthma awareness.

Bicycling is also a great way to reduce air pollution from motor vehicles while reducing traffic congestion, getting great exercise and saving money on gas.

The Air District will be involved in many Bike-To-Work and other cycling events throughout the Valley in May.

Here is a list of some Valley events:

May 1:

Bike Bakersfield Downtown Criterium. Begins 7:30 AM, at 600 20th St. Details at: www.bikebakersfield.org.

All Merced Bike Ride, 8 AM, Kevin's Bikes in Merced, Merced Bicycle Coalition. Details at: www.mercedbicyclecoalition.org.

May 5:

Fresno's Mall-to-Mall Ride. From Manchester Mall to Fulton Mall, 7:30 - 9:30 AM. Details at: www.ibikefresno.org



May 8:

Tour of Merced's Bike Paths. Starts at Rahilly Park at 10 AM. Details at: www.mercedbicyclecoalition.org.

May 15:

Ride with the Mayor, Merced Bicycle Coalition. Begins 9:30 AM at the Scout Hut in Applegate Park. Details at: www.mercedbicyclecoalition.org.

May 19:

Fresno's Bike-To-Work Day, Fresno Bicycle Coalition. Energy stations throughout the city. Details at: www.ibikefresno.org.

Bike-To-Work Day and Amgen Tour of California, begins 6:30 AM, 10th St. Place, Modesto. Details at: www.modestogov.com/bikes.

Bike To Work Day, Valley Air District and Bike Bakersfield, 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM. Details at: www.bikebakersfield.org/links.htm.

May 20:

Bike to Work Day, City of Stockton and Valley Air District. DeCarli Plaza, 6:30 AM - 8:30 AM. Call for details: 209-557-6400.

May 21:

Bike To Work Day, Atwater, by Merced County Association of Governments, 7 AM-10 AM and 4 PM - 5:30 PM. Energizer stations set up throughout city. Call for details: 209-261-7109.

Bike to Work Day, Merced, by Merced Bicycle Coalition. Energizer stations at City Hall and other locations throughout city. Details at: www.mercedbicyclecoalition.org.

Air District welcomes new Governing Board member

The Valley-wide Special Cities Selection Committee has appointed Visalia City Councilman Mike Lane to serve a three-year term on the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's Governing Board.



Lane, a Visalia native, is a management analyst for Self-Help Enterprises, a nonprofit housing and community development organization. He was elected to the Visalia City Council in 2009, and serves on the board of directors for the Tulare-Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Visalia Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Council.

The Governing Board is comprised of 15 seats: one from each of the District's eight counties; five city representatives; and two appointed by the Governor. The board directs District staff and must authorize any regulations and plans developed by the District.

Air Quality Conference Particulate Pollution in the San Joaquin Valley: Translating Science into Policy



Save the Dates! June 9 and 10, 2010

Downtown Holiday Inn -- Fresno