

VALLEY AIR NEWS



A monthly publication of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - Sept. 2013

Calendar Contest deadline Oct. 7

The Valley Air District needs entries from student artists for this year's Healthy Air Living Kids Calendar.

All San Joaquin Valley students grades K-12 are eligible. The Air District will showcase 14 colorful drawings in the 2014 Kids Calendar.

This full-color, bilingual wall calendar is a colorful, creative way to learn about cleaning the Valley's air. With art done by Valley students and clean-air messages, this annual calendar is perennially popular. The District distributes 20,000 copies free of charge to schools, community groups, libraries, healthcare facilities, churches and nonprofit organizations throughout the eight-county air basin.

Here are the guidelines for creating a winning entry:

- Paper should be placed sideways (landscape orientation) so it is 8-1/2 inches high and 11 inches wide.
- Artwork should be in color.
- Artwork should contain a message about how to live a Healthy Air life. Some examples from past calendars are "Don't idle your car." "Be Cool and Car pool!" "Check Before You Burn."
- Bilingual and Spanish messages are encouraged.

Artists must include their name and address, phone number and/or e-mail contact, age, grade and school on the back of the artwork. Please mail art flat, not folded, to 2013 Kids Calendar, Valley Air District, 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., Fresno, CA 93726, or turn in your art at the nearest District office.



Burn Cleaner Program reduces Valley's wintertime emissions

The Valley Air District can help San Joaquin Valley residents arm themselves with cleaner and more efficient fireplace inserts and free-standing stoves before winter sets in.

The District is working with hearth retailers to provide an incentive for residents to replace or upgrade their existing fireplaces and wood stoves with new, attractive units that will better heat their homes and drastically reduce winter particulate matter.

Residential wood burning is the largest source of particulate pollution from November through February with open-hearth fireplaces emitting as much as 48 grams per hour of the fine particles that can aggravate asthma, emphysema, bronchitis, heart disease, cause lung infections and other ailments.

Replacing an old wood stove or placing a new, EPA certified wood or pellet insert in an open fireplace, greatly reduces the amount particulate matter pollution affecting Valley residents. Going to a gas stove or insert is the cleanest and most efficient way to go.

Here are the incentive amounts currently available through the Burn Cleaner Program:

- \$100 to replace an old wood stove or fireplace with an EPA certified wood stove or insert.
- \$250 to replace any old wood stove or fireplace with a pellet-fueled heater.
- \$500 to replace any wood burning device with a free-standing natural-gas stove or insert.
- \$1,500 toward any eligible device for low-income eligible residents.

For complete details on the Burn Cleaner Program and other District Incentives, visit www.valleyair.org/grants.