

Lawn Care Strategies

2012 SJVAPCD Air Quality Conference
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Background - Strategies for Reducing Air Pollution

- Valley Air District has implemented wide variety of strategies over last two decades
- Prides itself on working closely with stakeholders, including affected businesses, to develop effective, reasonable strategies
- Many “tools” available - broad range of strategies; including regulations, outreach, and voluntary incentives



Background - Strategies for Reducing Air Pollution (cont'd)

- **Regulatory Strategies:**
 - Adopted 500 rules since 1992
 - Industrial, manufacturing, new housing/commercial developments, worker trip reduction, residential woodburning
 - Build in flexible compliance options and schedule
 - Extensive outreach/assistance
 - Agricultural best management practices

Background - Strategies for Reducing Air Pollution (cont'd)

- **Outreach Strategies:**

- Health Air Living – “Make One Change”
- Partnerships with schools, community groups, and other Valley stakeholders
- Real-Time Air Advisory Network (RAAN)
- Check Before You Burn
- Air Alerts
- Media/Press Releases



Background - Strategies for Reducing Air Pollution (cont'd)

- Incentive Strategies:

- Valley Air District has given out over \$400 million since 1992 for variety of clean-air projects
- Programs have promoted clean air projects in all sectors:
 - Residential – **electric mowers**, clean fireplace devices, advanced cars, vanpooling, etc.
 - Business/Public Sector – tractors, construction equipment, heavy duty trucks, etc.



Opportunities Moving Forward

- Active Engagement/Partnership Opportunities
- Regulatory Options

Moving Forward – Partnership Opportunities

- Active engagement with landscaping industry:
 - Technology Demonstration (\$\$\$) - Learn more about new technologies and how well they may (or may not!) work
 - Understand benefits of implementing new technologies and best management practices – need to collaborate with the landscaping industry to identify opportunities

Moving Forward – Regulatory Landscape

- State Air Resources Board and Federal Environmental Protection Agency have authority to establish new engine standards
 - State SORE regulation
 - Federal Spark-Ignition Nonroad Engine Rule
- Local Air District may regulate the use of lawn and garden equipment – given our air quality challenge and potential risk benefits, exploring regulatory options as a long-term strategy is a priority

Regulatory Options

- Consider adopting Valley-wide regulatory strategies that include one or more of the following:
 - Best management practices
 - Use of cleanest equipment
 - Restrictions/cleanest equipment on high-pollution days (i.e. Air Alerts)
 - Other strategies???

Regulatory Options

- ***Best Management Practices – Menu approach***
 - Restrictions near schools
 - Courtesy practices – don't point at people, open windows, etc.
 - Particulate prevention practices (e. g. no leaf blower use on bare soil or urban gutters)
 - Model ordinances for cities and counties?
- ***Use of Cleanest-Equipment***
 - Require cleanest equipment by certain timeframe
 - Phase-in, zero-emissions technology in the future?
- ***Requiring clean-equipment use during high-pollution days***
 - Restrict use of conventional equipment during Air Alerts and other high-pollution days

Wrap-Up

- Air District is in fact-finding mode, and interested in engaging the industry to try out new technologies, and discuss strategies for reducing emissions
- Regulatory options would require full public process, including extensive discussions with industry and establish feasible and reasonable options
- Your involvement is important and valued

Questions/Comments?

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