Reducing Water Use through alternative Conservation Management Practices

California is in the midst of a severe drought and it is important to conserve as much water as possible. The District would like to remind holders of a Conservation Management Practices Plan (CMPP) that alternative practices are available that will reduce, or eliminate the need to use water.

A CMPP is a written plan obtained from the Air District to reduce dust emissions. In general, a CMPP is required for owners or operators that farm 100 or more contiguous acres. It is also required for animal feeding operations of 500 or more mature dairy cows, or 190 or more of any other cattle. There are a few more categories that would require a CMPP. You may call the Air District, at the telephone numbers below, to see if you need a CMPP.

Water has been used for many years to control dust on unpaved roads and open areas. While it remains an effective tool, the Air District would like to encourage the use of alternative methods. Some of those include:

- Restricting access to unpaved roads and open areas
- Placing and enforcing speed limit signs
- Covering an unpaved road or open area with a dust suppressant
- Covering an unpaved road or open area with material such as almond shells
- Applying gravel or decomposed granite

There is no charge to switch to another management practice, simply fill out the attached form, or call the Air District for help.

For assistance in modifying your Conservation Management Practices, please call the District’s Small Business Assistance at the following telephone numbers: