

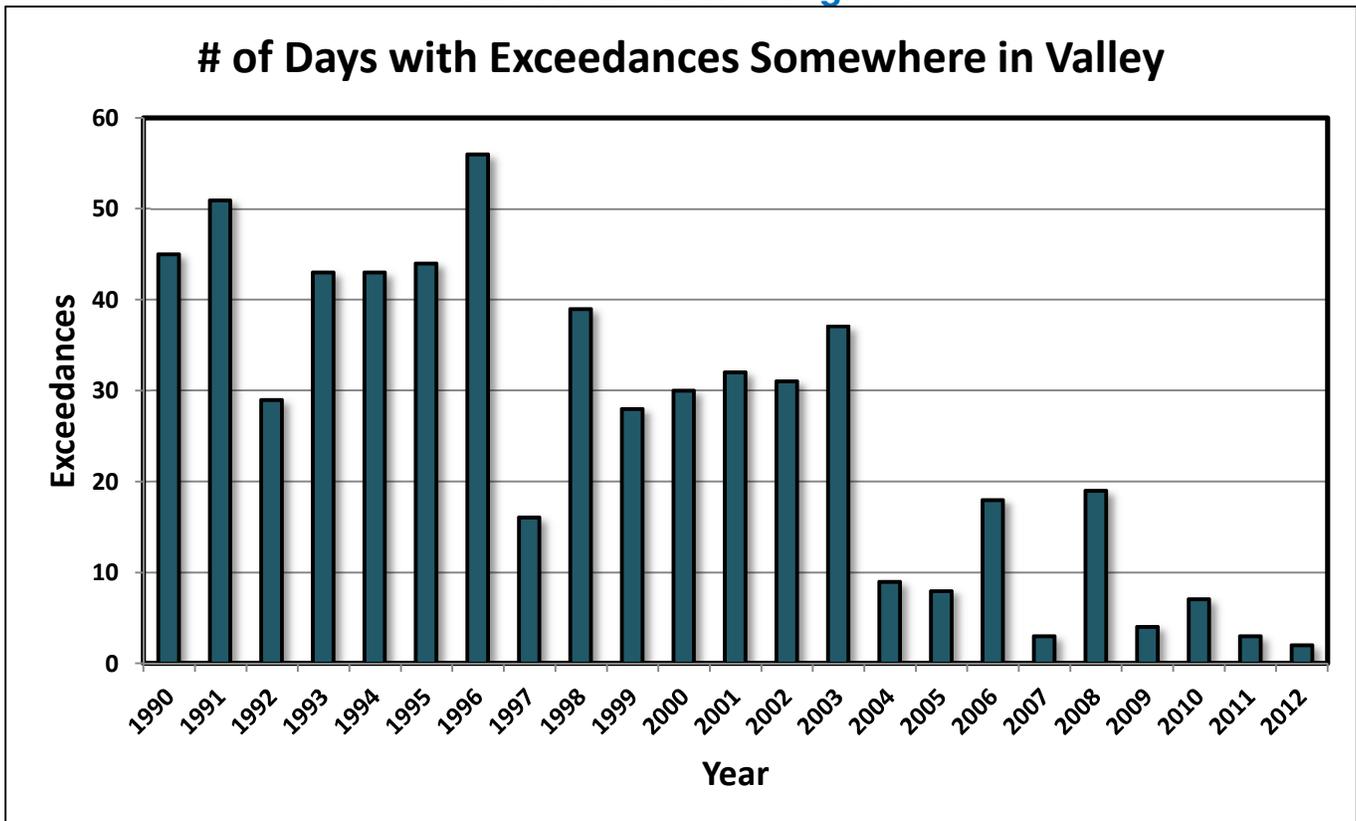
# District Highlights

August 15, 2013 Action by the Governing Board

## Ozone Update Demonstrated Huge Air Quality Improvements

- Valley residents have seen a 97 percent reduction in the number of 1-hour ozone exceedances
  - 1996: 56 days over standard, 281 hours over standard
  - 2012: 3 days over standard, 7 hours over standard
  - 13 percent reduction in 1-hour ozone peaks from 2003 to 2012
- Valley is on the verge of attainment with 1-hr ozone standard with no violations so far this year. With no exceedances for the remainder of 2013, it is possible for the Valley to meet that standard.
- The Valley has also seen significant improvement with the tougher, 8-hour ozone standard recording the lowest Valley 8-hour ozone “design value” in 2012. Ozone concentrations continue to drop, with 60 percent fewer exceedances of the 8-hour ozone standard.
- 2013 continues to show ozone progress, despite heat episodes and wildfires. Air-quality benefits have come through implementation of numerous strategies and billions of dollars of investment by Valley businesses.

### One Hour Ozone Progress



The Valley is subject to \$30 million in federal non-attainment penalties each year for not meeting the revoked 1-hour ozone standard. Meeting the standard will remove exposure of Valley businesses to additional penalties, and will return full, local control for decisions regarding the need, magnitude and expenditure of vehicle registration dollars.

### **Air Alert Notification Program**

A key factor in preventing any 1-hour ozone exceedances for the remainder of this season will be the District's Air Alert notification program.

- Public education and warning system designed to notify residents of impending periods of deteriorating air quality
- Activated during August/September, coinciding with back-to-school periods
- Air Alerts declared Valley-wide, given the nature of ozone plumes
- Extensive outreach efforts to inform the public (news releases, TV, radio, social media)
- Attaining the standard would return full control to the Valley regarding the need, magnitude and expenditure of DMV dollars
- Opportunity to avoid penalty with voluntary action by general public and businesses to reduce emissions

On Air Alert days, the District will ask Valley residents to do their part to reduce air pollution.

### **District Provides Assistance To Valley Truckers With A Focus On Owner/Operators**

Trucks are the largest source of NOx emissions (the key precursor for ozone and particulates) in the San Joaquin Valley. The District expressed concerns with the looming Jan. 1, 2014 deadline for the state Air Resources Board's truck rule. At this point, the District expects widespread noncompliance by small fleets and single owner/operators (15,000 single owner/operators in Valley). This can lead to potential devastating impacts on Valley businesses (truckers and customers).

The Board appropriated \$7 million in funding through the District's Truck Voucher program to assist owner/operators in replacing high-emitting diesel trucks. This will not only help the owner operators comply with the state deadline, but also significantly reduce other smog-forming emissions above and beyond the requirements of the state truck rule. The Board also approved a targeted outreach campaign to advise owner/operators of the upcoming deadline and available funding.

Considering the magnitude of the problem, the Board directed District staff to work with the state Air Resources Board and Cal/EPA to craft a more comprehensive solution to help truckers comply statewide.

### **District Appropriates \$4 Million To Help Valley Residents Test And Repair High-Polluting Vehicles**

The Board approved an agreement with Valley Clean Air Now for an additional \$4 million in funding to continue the District's award-winning Tune In, Tune Up program. In the program's first two years, 40 Tune-in Tune-up events have been held throughout the Valley, and nearly 7,000 high-emitting cars have been identified and repaired. At the events, Valley residents with cars identified as gross polluters have received vouchers for up to \$850 in related repairs. Tune in, Tune up has been especially popular and effective at weekend events in the Valley's low-income communities, where hundreds of local residents have lined up to have their older cars tested.

### **Cal/Epa's Upcoming Enforcement And Compliance Initiative In The San Joaquin Valley**

The Board considered an invitation from Cal/EPA to participate in its upcoming multi-media, multi-agency, environmental enforcement effort targeting businesses in environmental justice communities in central Fresno.

The Board expressed the following concerns regarding this initiative by Cal/EPA:

- Cal/EPA's effort so far to design and plan these activities has failed to be open and transparent to the public and targeted businesses.
- Using the Cal Enviro Screen tool to identify targeted businesses and communities for enforcement constitutes a misuse of this tool, which was portrayed by Cal/EPA as a mapping tool that could identify communities in need of additional support and resources.
- The District already conducts more than 90,000 inspections per year, and Cal/EPA's effort may be duplicative with little or no added value.

In considering Cal/EPA's invitation, the Board wanted assurances that Cal/EPA would coordinate with the District to avoid duplicative and redundant inspections and unreasonable enforcement actions. The Board also demanded that Cal/EPA augment this effort by bringing resources to these communities. The

Board stressed the need for transparency and frequent reports to the Board and the public. Arsenio Mataka, Cal/EPA's Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs, provided assurances that Cal/EPA will coordinate with the District to avoid duplication, and that all participating agencies will be asked to provide resource assistance to the affected businesses and communities. The Board authorized participation subject to the above stipulations.

### **August Healthy Air Living Tip**

Idling a vehicle while dropping off and picking up students at school is the No. 1 contributor to emissions that violate the 1-hour ozone health standard. And it's entirely preventable! Near-school idling is doubly important because children breathe 50 percent more air per pound than adults. Idling affects their long-term health and can also cause asthma attacks. Need another reason? Idling for more than 10 seconds can use *more* fuel than turning off the engine and restarting it.

Ref: <http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/myths/idling.html>  
<http://www.nrdc.org/health/kids/ocar/chap4.asp>

**Tip: This fall, turn off your vehicle while you're waiting for your children.  
Or better yet, walk your child to school!**

For more clean air tips, click on [www.healthyairliving.com](http://www.healthyairliving.com)

## **June/July District Activities**

### ***Outreach and Communications***

- During June and July, Outreach and Communications was kept busy managing external communications regarding wildfires in the air basin and the Clean, Green Yard Machines program. Department staff was also heavily involved in producing new collateral materials and refining grants program materials and website content.
- OC responded to 33 public calls or emails and 23 media calls, attended 1 presentation and issued two news releases in June. In July, the department responded to 24 media calls and 74 public calls, attended two presentations and issued five news releases.

### ***Grant and Incentive Programs***

- The District received 330 incentive program applications in June. 18 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 124 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program. In July, 347 applications were received. 25 were for the Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 185 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- \$5,685,924 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program grant funds in June, and \$3,371,239 in Heavy-Duty Engine Program claims was paid. In July, \$7,370,801 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and \$3,724,900 was paid.

June 2013	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
Program	Number Received & Entered	Number of Contracts sent out	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Contracts Executed	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Claims paid	Sum of Grant Funding
Heavy Duty	124	125	\$5,667,797.46	135	\$5,685,924.15	86	\$3,371,239.36
School Bus	24	0	\$0.00	2	\$112,930.12	5	\$643,022.15
On-Road Prop 1B	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	90	\$4,577,500.00
Lawn and Garden	81	1	\$3,679.33	1	\$3,679.33	106	\$157,793.52
REMOVE	80	217	\$107,520.00	216	\$77,520.00	889	\$661,751.93
Burn Cleaner	18	13	\$7,500.00	13	\$7,500.00	24	\$12,000.00
Technology Advancement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00
Public Benefit	3	5	\$334,584.39	18	\$939,764.09	0	\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>\$6,121,081.18</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>\$6,827,317.69</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>\$9,423,306.96</b>
<b>Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)</b>							
<b>Nox</b>	<b>PM</b>	<b>ROG</b>	<b>Total</b>				
754	34	93	881				
<b>Smoking Vehicles</b>	13						

July 2013	Applications	Grants Offered		Grants Executed		Amount Paid	
Program	Number Received & Entered	Number of Contracts sent out	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Contracts Executed	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Claims paid	Sum of Grant Funding
Heavy Duty	185	89	\$4,002,923.59	94	\$7,370,801.14	109	\$3,724,900.74
School Bus	0	3	\$266,865.49	0	\$0.00	11	\$357,055.95
On-Road Prop 1B	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	126	\$5,797,400.00
Lawn and Garden	49	109	\$23,784.50	109	\$23,784.50	20	\$4,400.00
REMOVE	86	158	\$196,970.00	160	\$359,814.00	1,176	\$359,441.52
Burn Cleaner	25	35	\$19,250.00	35	\$19,250.00	26	\$14,600.00
Technology Advancement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	1	\$22,000.00
Public Benefit	2	8	\$545,499.98	5	\$335,309.45	5	\$99,360.20
<b>Totals</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>\$5,055,293.56</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>\$8,108,959.09</b>	<b>1,474</b>	<b>\$10,379,158.41</b>
<b>Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)</b>							
<b>Nox</b>	<b>PM</b>	<b>ROG</b>	<b>Total</b>				
605	28	70	703				
<b>Smoking Vehicles</b>	15						

- In June, \$661,751 was paid out in REMOVE II Program claims. In July, \$359,441 was paid.
- \$12,000 in Burn Cleaner Wood Stove Change-Out Program claims was paid in June and 24 claims were processed. In July, \$14,600 was paid and 26 claims were processed.

### ***Operations Overview***

- **Compliance** completed 3,967 inspections in June and 3,400 in July. 164 NOVS were issued in June and 199 in July. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 128 in June and 227 in July.
- **Permits** received 249 applications in June and 173 in July. 205 permits were issued in June and 308 in July.
- **Strategies and Incentives** received 13 smoking vehicle reports in June and 15 in July.
- **The District** received 130 environmental documents for review in June and 113 in July.

### ***Upcoming Meetings***

**Governing Board\***  
9 a.m. Thurs., Sept. 19

**Citizens Advisory Committee\***  
10 a.m. Tues., Sept. 3

**Environmental Justice Adv. Grp.**  
5:30 p.m. Thurs., Aug. 22

*Meetings are held in the Fresno office Governing Board Room and via video teleconference to the Modesto and Bakersfield offices. Details: [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org) \*Webcast*