

## **Worth noting: Valley Air District wins award for car emissions tests, more**

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A program that provides free emissions testing and car repairs to Central Valley drivers earned the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District a state environmental award, according to a news release.

The program, called Tune In, Tune Up, won the annual Edmund G. "Pat" Brown Award given by the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance.

Drivers throughout the Central Valley can have their car emissions tested at regular events. If the test determines the car would likely fail a smog test, the driver is given a voucher for up to \$500 in repairs to make the car meet smog test standards.

Throughout the past year, there have been 15 events that tested about 5,000 cars. Of that, 3,000 warranted repair vouchers. Annually, the events have removed 150 tons of nitrogen oxides, 3,000 tons of carbon monoxide and 300 tons of hydrocarbons from the air basin, according to the release.

The next Kern County event will be Jan. 26. No specific location has been set yet.