

Valley air district urges truckers to attend truck-rule workshop

Central Valley Business Times, Monday, Dec. 9, 2013

With the Jan. 1, 2014 compliance deadline of the California Air Resources Board's truck rule fast approaching, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has a workshop December 12 to explain the changes.

"We are very pleased that the Air Resources Board sees the importance of allowing additional time for these small trucking operations to receive critical funding that allows them to go beyond what is required by this regulation," says Seyed Sadredin, the Valley Air District's executive director and air pollution control officer.

The Valley Air District has made an additional \$10 million available and broadened its eligibility criteria for the Valley's 15,000-plus single-truck owner/operators and small fleets to receive funding that reduces nitrogen oxides emissions, a major source of the air basin's pollution.

This funding can provide truckers with assistance that further reduces emissions beyond mere rule compliance. To date, the local air district has awarded more than \$114 million in truck funding, replacing more than 2,000 trucks.

The Thursday workshop is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Valley Air District offices, 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave. in Fresno.

The public can also attend the workshop by video conference at the Valley Air District's regional offices in Bakersfield and Modesto.

Kayla Albright artwork in Living Kids' calendar

The Porterville Recorder, Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2013

The artwork of Porterville student Kayla Albright is among a handful of pieces selected for the 2014 Healthy Air Living Kids' Calendar.

The calendar features the artwork of 15 Valley students — only three from Tulare County. The bilingual, full-color wall calendar is an annual publication of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. It showcases original works of art by children in each of the air basin's eight counties, chosen from hundreds of entries. It illustrates a monthly clean-air message in English and Spanish, such as "Help everyone have a healthy air life!" and "Care for our air and walk there."

Other students from Tulare County include Jesse Avila of Farmersville and Valerie Bailey of Tulare. All of the other artwork was done from students outside of Tulare County.

The calendars are distributed to schools, community groups, healthcare facilities, churches, civic organizations and non-profit groups throughout the Valley. The District prints 20,000 copies of the popular, free publication, which promotes Healthy Air Living throughout the year.

The 2013 calendars can be reserved, while supplies last, at public.education@valleyair.org, and can be picked up in Fresno, at 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave. (230-6000) and in Bakersfield, at 34936 Flyover Court (661-392-5500).