

District offers \$3,000 to replace wood stoves, inserts or fireplaces

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Officials remind residents to take advantage of program

The Valley Air District's Burn Cleaner grants is providing up to \$3,000 to Valley residents wanting to switch out older wood-burning devices for a cleaner model.

Seyed Sadredin, executive director of the Valley Air District, said residents can take advantage of \$1,000 for certified wood or pellet inserts/freestanding stoves or natural gas inserts. He said there is \$2,500 for eligible, low-income applicants for all devices.

Sadredin said an additional \$500 is available to all applicants for the installation costs on a natural gas device, and that a total of up to \$3,000 may be available in some instances to change out older, dirty-burning devices for something cleaner.

"This winter has been accompanied by frigid temperatures, leaving Valley residents wanting to use their wood-burning devices," Sadredin said, adding that smoke from residential wood burning constitutes the largest source of dangerous particulate emissions during winter months. "The Check Before You Burn program provides an opportunity for Valley residents to do their part to help reduce air pollution and improve public health throughout the San Joaquin Valley."

Sadredin said for homeowners who have an older, wood-burning device that there is still funding available to convert their device to a more efficient and less polluting unit. He said by converting an open-hearth fireplace, older wood stoves or older wood inserts to an EPA-certified, wood-burning device, residents will be able to light a fire on cold winter nights more often while reducing the Valley's air pollution.

He said there is still time for those households that have not yet registered their devices.

"Don't miss this opportunity to receive funding from the Burn Cleaner Program," Sadredin said.

For program guidelines, visit www.valleyair.org/burncleaner.

Up to \$3,000 grant to replace Valley residents' burning devices

By Andrea Figueroa Briseño

Fresno Bee, Sat. Jan. 28, 2017

Valley residents could receive up to \$3,000 to replace their old, air-polluting burning devices with a more efficient unit, said the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

Residents who replace their devices would reduce the Valley's air pollution and could light fires more often. The district's Burn Cleaner grant provides \$1,000, or \$2,500 for eligible low-income applicants, for certified wood or pellet inserts, freestanding stoves, or natural gas inserts, said Valley Air. All applicants could get an additional \$500 for the installation cost on natural gas devices.

For more information visit www.valleyair.org/burncleaner.