## SPARE SPARE SPARE Spring 2004

## Lawn mower discount kicks off Spare the Air season Replace gas-powered mowers for Clean Green Yard Machines

The Valley Air District is kicking off the 2004 Spare the Air season with a promotion to help clean the air by giving residents an incentive to replace polluting gas-powered lawn mowers with emission-free "Clean Green Yard Machines."

The Air District is giving a discount of \$35 to \$88 to Valley residents who purchase one of four new electric or reel (push) mowers at any of the 14 Orchard Supply Hardware (OSH) stores in the San Joaquin Valley from June 5-8. The District expects about 1,000 mowers to be purchased in the eight-county region. The coupon is good on the purchase of one of four mower models.

These clean-running electric and reel mowers help reduce smog-forming emissions that add to the Valley's summertime ozone-pollution problem. A typical lawn mower, which is an unregulated product, when used just 45 minutes a week spews the equivalent pollution of 43 new cars driven 12,000 miles a year. Electric and reel mowers work just as well and produce no emissions.

The Air District, Orchard Supply Hardware, Black & Decker and American Lawn Mower Company are partnering in the Clean Green Yard Machine program.

## Help Spare the Air June 8 – Sept. 30

This summer your company joins more than 760 other Spare the Air Employer Partners in a commitment to cleaner air. With your help, we will all be able to breathe easier.

The Spare the Air season kicks off June 8 with "Drill Day" and runs through Sept. 30. The program works by notifying residents and employers in advance of days when air quality is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. These are designated as "Spare the Air" days.

On Drill Day, the Air District will send a trial Spare the Air alert to all employer partners to check the alert network. On that day, Employer Partners are asked to have employees practice what they will do when a real Spare the Air day occurs.

# How will you know it's a Spare the Air day?

We will notify the Spare the Air coordinator at your work site by fax or e-mail when the following day is forecast to be a Spare the Air day. Daily air-quality information also is available at (800) SMOG-INFO (766-4463) and at www.valleyair.org. Based on previous years, we can expect from 25 to 35 Spare the Air days this summer.

### Sign up for 2004 e-mail notification

If your contact information has changed from last year, please let us know. E-mail public.education@valleyair.org or call the District's Spare the Air Employer Coordinator at (559) 230-5853.

Your Efforts Make a Difference!

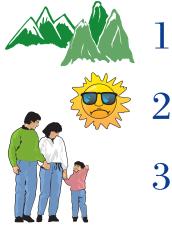
## Why is our air quality so bad?

The San Joaquin Valley is designated as an extreme ozone "non-attainment area" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. During the summer, we fail to meet both the state and federal health-based standard for harmful ground-level ozone, the primary ingredient of smog.

The Valley's hot summer temperatures promote the formation of ozone. Exhaust from cars, trucks, construction and ag equipment, lawn mowers, boats and other "mobile sources" react in the presence of sunlight to form unhealthy ozone levels. Vehicles and other mobile sources cause about 60 percent of the air pollution problem.

Small, gas-powered engines such as leaf blowers, lawn mowers and personal watercraft produce nitrogen oxide (NOx) and contribute to unhealthy air. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) come from things that evaporate such as gasoline, paint fumes, lighter fluid and consumer products.

## 3 reasons why it's a challenge to clean the air



*Geography* – the Valley is shaped like a bowl and is surrounded by mountains that trap air pollution in the Valley.

*Climate* – sunny, hot and still summers promote the formation of ground-level ozone.

*Growing population* – air pollution increases along with the population as more people drive vehicles and participate in other activities that cause air pollution.

# **A** What is the Air Quality Index?

**AIR QUALITY INDEX** The AQI helps explain the effects of air pollution and describes what you should do based on the day's index forecast. You can check the AQI for your region daily at www.valleyair.org, in major daily newspapers, on local TV weather reports or by calling 1-800-SMOG INFO (1-800-766-4463). Spare the Air days are called when pollution is forecast to be 151 or higher on the AQI.

Index	Level	Cautionary Statement
0 to 50	Good	None
51 to 100	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should limit prolonged outdoor activity.
101 to 150	Unhealthy for sensitive groups	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
151 to 200	Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, should avoid prolonged outdoor exertion. Everyone else should limit pro- longed outdoor exertion.
201 to 300	Very unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, should avoid all outdoor exertion. Everyone else should limit prolonged outdoor exertion.
301-500	Hazardous	Everyone should avoid all outdoor exertion.

# 25 ways to Spare the Air . . . *at home, at work, at play* & on the road

- 1. Check your local paper for the daily air-quality report.
- 2. Bring your lunch to work or join with other coworkers and order in.
- 3. Elementary school teachers: Request the Blue Sky, Brown Sky curriculum from the Valley Air District.
- 4. Ask a Valley Air District representative to speak to your club, school or company.
- 5. Rideshare or take alternative transportation to work once a week.
- 6. Paint with odorless, solvent-free paints.
- 7. Mow your lawn with an electric or manual (reel) push mower.
- 8. Parents: Start a kidpool. Take turns giving neighbors' children a ride to and from school and activities.
- 9. Rent an electric car or hybrid car for your next business trip or vacation.
- 10. Bank by phone, mail or computer when possible.
- 11. Kids! Join the Clean Air Kids Club.
- 12. Walk or bike more. Drive less.
- 13. Car shopping? Purchase a reduced-emission vehicle.
- 14. Buy non-aerosol hair spray and deodorant.

- 15. Talk to your supervisor about telecommuting when possible.
- 16. Teleconference or videoconference meetings.
- 17. Minimize your use of two-cycle motorboats, offroad motorcycles and ATVs. They produce much more pollution than modern cars.
- 18. Trip link. Combine errands into one trip.
- **19.** Keep your vehicle tuned up and tires properly inflated for better gas mileage and optimal performance.
- 20. Plant trees. They help clean the air.
- 21. Reduce driving: shop by catalog, via the Internet or with a friend.
- 22. Use natural products to freshen the air in your home such as baking soda in an open dish, potpourri or cut flowers.
- 23. Replace your old barbecue with a propane gas-powered unit. Or, use an electric charcoal briquette starter instead of lighter fluid.
- 24. Get more ideas by visiting the California Air Resources Board home page, www.arb.ca.gov/ and www.valleyair.org.
- 25. Resolve to do at least one thing weekly to help clean the air.

### Order your 2004 incentive items

Don't forget to order a selection of Spare the Air incentive items for employees who participate in the program. They're free and help spread the Spare the Air message. Check out this year's items and place your order at www.valleyair.org or request an order form at (559)230-5853.

### It can be fun to help clean up the air How can you motivate co-workers to Spare the Air? Here are some ideas that have worked for other companies

• Have employees e-mail your Spare the Air coordinator with two or three ways they will Spare the Air on designated days (example: take the bus and use pump

sprays). Share these ideas with the rest of the staff.

• Divide co-workers into teams that vie for points by



following Spare the Air tips. Offer end-of-the-season rewards such as a pizza lunch or gift certificates.

- When you notify employees about a Spare the Air forecast, include a list of tips.
- The District provides free incentive items for you to give employees to earn when they Spare the Air.
- See the District's web site for more ways to have fun and Spare the Air. <u>www.valleyair.org</u>

## Spare the Air Employer Partners

#### FRESNO COUNTY

Ag Formulators AIS Market Research Alert-O-Life Allwire, Inc. American Lung Association Am-Gold Corp. Ano Tech Metal Finishing Aon Risk Services Apollo Dental Products AT&T Wireless Services Automated Office Systems B.E. Giovannetti & Sons Baker, Manock & Jensen Bank of America - Env. Network Bank of America Fashion Fair Bank of America Fig Garden Bank of America Loan Center Bartels Research Corp. Best Western Village Inn Best Western Water Tree Inn **Biola Community Svcs Dist Biola-Pershing Elem School** Blair, Church & Flynn Engineering Borders Books & Music Borders Books & Music Boys & Girls Clubs Of Fresno Co. Brad's Auto Body California Animal Health & Food Safety Lab California State University, Fresno Calaveras Materials Inc. California Air National Guard California Dairies, Inc. California Highway Patrol California State AA CAMCO Cantisano Foods, Inc. Carroll-David Distributing Inc Cathedral Christian School Cavale-Taylor & Co. Cedar Veterinary Hospital Cellulo Co. Central California Blood Ctr Central High School E. Campus Central Unified School District Central Valley Awning Central Valley Regional Central Valley Vein & Laser Ctr. Chaffee Zoo Education Dept. Check N Go Chicago Title Co. Citrus Mini Mart City of Clovis City of Clovis Public Utilities City of Clovis Solid Waste City of Fresno Wastewater City of Fresno, Water Division City of Reedley City of Sanger City of Selma City Press **Civic Center Square Clear Channel Communications Clovis Adult Education** 

**Clovis Christian Schools** Clovis Unified School Dist. **CMB** Industries Coalinga Chamber Of Commerce **Community Medical Centers** Comp USA **Compactor Specialist Compare Insurance Agency Copper Hills Elementary School** Cornnuts Inc. Cotton West Ag Management Council of Fresno Co. Govts. **Crown Printing** Cunnings & Cunnings, Inc. Dan Banuelos, CPA Dantel Inc. Data Central Collection Agency Dataworks Educational Research David & Sons Days Inn Blackstone Denham Personnel Services Dow Brands Dowling, Aaron & Keeler Dr. Roger Graumann **Dumont Printing Duncan Enterprises** Dynamis, Inc. Econo Office Furniture Educational Employees Credit Union Edwards 21 Fresno Cinemas Edwards Chiropractic Clinic El Capitan Middle School Executive Housewares F.I.R.M. Associates, Inc. Fairfield Inn FCC Training Institute Federal Police Fig Garden Swim & Racquet Club Four Points Hotel By Sheraton Fowler Cabinet & Hardware Co. Fowler Dehydrator Foxwood Apartments Fremont Compensation Fresno Area Express Fresno Association Of Realtors Fresno Asthmatic Children's Env Study Fresno Bee Fresno Chamber Of Commerce Fresno Chrysler Plymouth Fresno City College Fresno City Manager's Office Fresno Co. Human Services Fresno Co. Office Of Education Fresno Convention & Visitors Bur. Fresno Convention Center Fresno County EOC Fresno Flood Control District Fresno Grizzlies Baseball Club Fresno Local Conserv. Corps Fresno Metropolitan Museum Fresno State Alumni Association Fresno Unified School District Fresno Workforce Development Gage Bros. Construction

Gerald Lee Tahajian Law Office

Gibson Wine Co. Golden State Family Serv. **Golden State Vintners** Golden Valley Girl Scout Council Goodman & Co. Gottschalks Grisanti & Assoc Grundfos Pumps Mfg. Corp. **Guardian Fabrication** Guardian Industries Corp. Haroutunian Farms Harris Ranch Beef Co. Helena Chemical Herndon Barstow Elem. School Herndon Village Chiropractic Hightower Construction Hood Bros. Pallets & Bins Hospital Council Houghton Kearney Elem School Housing Authorities HR Connect Internal Revenue Service International English Institute Ironworkers Local Union J.E. Ethridge Construction Jeffrey W. Glassheim, D.O., Inc. Jones Cleaning Centers Kaiser Permanente Kasco Fab. Inc. Kenclaire West Elec. Agencies Kerman Texaco Car Wash KFSN ABC 30 KFTV Channel 21 Unvision King of Kings Comm. Center Kingsburg Chamber Of Commerce Kingsburg Cotton Oil Co. KISS Country KMPH Fox 26 KMSG Channel 59 KGPE-TV 47 KPXF TV 61 Paxnet & Ch. 24 Krebs Associates KSEE TV 24 (NBC) KVPR -Valley Public Radio Laidlaw Transit Laton Community Services Dist. Life Point Little Miracles Christian Preschool Loan Mart London Properties Madison Elementary School MBIA Muniservices Co. McKinley Elementary Media One Mendota Biomass Power Ltd. Michael Automotive Microsource Mi-Rancho Tortillas Moderne Plastic, Inc. Mountain View School National Training Institute Natural Vision North American Title Insurance Pacheco Figs Pacific Gas & Electric Pacific Management Services

Panagraph Inc. Parc Environmental Parlier Unified School Dist. Office Payroll People Peninsula Business Interiors Pep Boys Piccadilly Inn Hotels Piccadilly Inn Shaw Portfolio Advisors Procter's Jewelers Provost & Pritchard Engineering R. W. Greenwood Assoc. Inc. Ramada Inn University Reedlev College Reno's Hardware Rich Products Corp. Riverside Landscape & Nurserv **RMC** Lonestar Rutter Armey Inc. Rx Of Canada Safety-Kleen Corp. Saint Agnes Medical Center Salwasser Manufacturing San Joaquin Glass San Joaquin Valley College San Joaquin Valley Insurance San Joaquin Valley Rehab. Hosp. San Mar Properties, Inc. Sanger General Hospital Sanger Power Saroyan Elementary School Selma Community Hospital Shanghai Chinese Cuisine Shapemakers 2000 Shaver Lake Sports LLC Sherwin Williams Auto Finishes Sherwood Lehman Massucco Inc. Sierra Kings District Hospital Sir Speedy Six Jewels Solutions By Design Spolsdoff Enterprises Inc. State Center Comm. College Dist. State Comp. Insurance Fund State Farm State of CA Fleet Admin. Steinbeck Elementary School Sterling Coatings/CECORR GP Stewart Title Sullivan Center For Children Sun-Maid Growers of CA Sunrise Assisted Living of Fresno Superior Auto Body & Paint T. James Williams & Co. The Business Journal The California Apple Commission The Carpet Corner The Clarksfield Company The Discovery Center The Hartford The Island Water Park The Salvation Army The Windham Thielen & Associates Todco Division

Towne Place Suites

**Clovis Cemetery District** 

### Thank you for helping clean our air

Travelers Inn Triple Equities UC Davis - CAFH, Fresno UC Extension Uncle Harry's Bagelry Uniroval Chemical United Cerebral Palsy United Food Workers Credit Union United Tax Service UC Center, Fresno USA Petroleum / USAGasoline USA Waste Of California VACCHOS Val Print Valley Behavioral Health Valley Detroit Diesel Allison Valley Iron, Inc. Valley Sanitary Supply Valley Type & Design Vendo VF Farms Vision Care Center Vocational Management Services Vopak Wal-Mart #1882 William L. Griffin Jr., MD Woody's Cabinets Yosemite Fitness Your Realty Co. Zee Medical Services Ziering Allergy & Respiratory

#### KERN COUNTY

Advance Beverage Co. Aera Energy All American Pipeline Co. Ameripride Valley Uniform Anchor Services Bakersfield Ag Co. Inc. Bakersfield Californian Blueprint Service Co. Braun Electric Co Inc Bright House Networks Calpine Corp. Pastoria Energy Facility Chevron Texaco Chevron USA Production Chicago Title City of Delano Corp. Yard City of Delano Personnel City of Delano Police Coca Cola Enterprises Conglas Days Inn Delano Dist Skilled Nursing Fac. Delano Energy Delano Logistics Services Inc Delano Regional Medical Delano Union Elem. School Dist. Double Tree Hotel El Paso Energy North America El Paso Merchant Energy Farmersville Health Center Fleet Card Fuels Food Maxx Foster Farms

Foundation For Medical Care Four Points Hotel Fred Cummins Honda Suzuki Frito-Lav. Inc. General Mills General Production Services Golden Empire Ambulance Golden Empire Transit Dist. Golden State Drilling Gray Lift Inc. Grayson Service Green Lawn Mortuary **Griffith Company** GTE Wireless Guy Chaddock & Co. I.C. Solutions Internal Revenue Service J. G. Boswell Jaco Oil Co. Jim Burke Ford Lincoln Mercury Kern Bros Trucking Kern Co Human Services Kern Co Superintendent Of Schools Kern Council Of Governments L&A Oak Designs Lortz & Son Mfg. Co. M & S Security Services Inc. Mercy Westside Hospital Merrill Lynch National Training Institute New Horizons Computer Learning No. Bakersfield Rec And Park Dist. Nuevo Energy Company Parsons Engineering Science, Inc. Project Clean Air Prudential America West Pyrenees French Bakery Ouintus Residence Inn Rio Bravo Tennis Ruggenberg Career Ctr San Joaquin Bank San Joaquin Valley APCD Sears Valley Plaza Shell Enterprises Sierra Iron & Metals Co Inc. State Comp Ins. Fund State Farm Insurance Stewart Title The Industrial Co. Three Way Chevrolet Co. Time Warner Cable Tosco Distribution Co. Trans-West Security Services Inc. Tulare County Asthma Coalition US Postal Service Vallev Tree & Construction Co. Wasco Chevron West Side Recreation & Park Westminster Ceramics Wilson Paves & Associates KINGS COUNTY

Avenal State Prison CA State Prison, Corcoran Cal-Clark Farms, Inc. California Highway Patrol California State AA Candlewick Yarns Inc Chemical Waste Management City of Lemoore Corcoran District Hospital Del Monte Foods Plant 24 Gilrov Foods Hanford Community Medical Ctr International Paper Kings County Government Ctr Lemoore Naval Air Station Lemoore Union High School District Loan Mart #3343 NAS Lemoore Mwr Youth Services Phytogen Seed Co., Prison Industry Authority **Richards Chevrolet-Pontiac-Buick Roberts Collision Center** Sawtelle & Rosprim Machine Seward Luggage The Hanford Sentinel Wal-Mart

#### MADERA COUNTY

Advanced Drainage Systems Anderson Pump Co. Azteca Milling/Valley Grain Products Baltimore Aircoil Co Berry Construction California State AA (CSAA) Canandaigua West Inc. Carris Reels Of California Central Valley Indian Health City Of Madera - Public Works Color Box Country Club Auto Body D. Papagni Fruit Company D.C. Cleaners Eagle Feather Crafts Earth & Ocean Sports Inc. Fresno-Madera Medical Society Georgia-Pacific Madera Container Giersch & Associates, Inc. Heartland Opportunity Center **IKG Industries Division** J&P Tolmosoff Farms James Monroe Elementary School Lamanuzzi & Pantaleo Logoluso Farms Madera Ag Services Madera Cars Unlimited Madera Co. Economic Dev Comm. Madera Co. Office Of Education Madera Co. Personnel Office Madera Co. Superior Court Madera Co. Dept. of Social Services Madera Community Hospital Madera Tribune Madera Unified School District North Fork Mono Rancheria **Regency Thermographers Riggs Ambulance Service** Sierra View School Steel Structures Inc Thomas Products Inc (TPI)

Truevalue Homecenter Valley Children's Hospital Victor Packing Zoria Farms

#### MERCED COUNTY

AT&T Cable Los Banos AT&T Cable Services California State AA Central Valley Regional City Of Merced Delhi Unified School District Dos Palos Memorial Hospital Fawcett Farms Foster Farms Huntsman Packaging Corp. J C Penney - Merced J.R. Wood, Inc. La Sierra/Merced Living Care Luther Burbank School Mclane Pacific Merced College Merced County Merced County Asthma Coalition Merced School Emp. Fed. Credit Mercy Hospital & Health Mercy Surgical & Diagnostic Morning Star Foods Inc Planada Elem. School District Product Development Corp Richwood Meat Co Inc Sensient Dehydrated Flavors State Farm Insurance Transcounty Title Co Unilever Best Foods US Postal Service - Main Wash 'N Wag Winton School District

#### SAN JOAQUIN CO.

Adart Electronic Sign Corp. Ameron International Applied Aerospace Structures AT&T Broadband **B&C** Painting Solutions Bank Of The West Bay Alarm Bay Sulfur Company CA. State Automobile Assoc. California Cedar Products California State AA - Law Dept. CalTrans - San Joaquin Co. Carpenter Co. Chicago Title Co. City of Lodi Engineer's Dept City of Ripon City of Stockton Crestwood Manor **Delicato Vineyards** Delta Containers/Sunrise Diamond Of California Dopaco Inc. DSC Logistics Earthgrains/Sara Lee Bakery Group East Union High School El Paso Corporation

### Spare the Air Employer Partners

Enviroplex, Inc. First United Methodist Church Fisher's Legal Express FMC Frank C. Alegre Trucking Inc. General Mills Inc. General Services Admin. H J Baker & Bro., Inc. Hammer / I-5 Arco Harley Murray Inc Health Plan Of San Joaquin Heinz USA Holz Rubber Co. House Of Redwood, Inc. Husky Crane Inc International Paper J M Manufacturing Kaiser Permanente Medical KBC Trading & Processing Co. Kentucky Fried Chicken Lathrop Woodworks Lawrence Livermore Lab #300 Lincoln Unified School District Linden Unified School District Lodi District Chamber Lodi Health Care Center Lodi News Sentinel Lodi Nut Company Lodi Wine & Business Center MCI Worldcom **McKinley Elementary** Morada Produce National Broom Co. NCTS Det. San Diego Stockton NDS, Inc. New Haven School No. CA Youth Correctional Center Nor Cal Beverage Pacific Coast Producers PG&E PG&E - Stockton Division Plastaket Manufacturing Poly Processing Co. Posdef Power Co., L.P. Private Industry Council Ripon Christian School Robert Mondavi Winery San Joaquin Council Of Govts San Joaquin Co. Employment/EDC San Joaquin Regional Transit Dist. Sanborn Chevrolet Inc Schack & Company Silgan Containers - San Joaquin Silverado Broadcasting Smart San Joaquin Reg. Transit SRI/Surgical Express St Joseph's Medical Center State Farm Insurance Stockton CSMS Natl Guard STROCAL Inc. Technotrim The Stockton Record The Wine Group Tracy Federal Credit Union Tracy Food 4 Less Tracy Unified School District-

#### Technology Dep

Tully C. Knoles School United Way US Postal Service USA Gas USA Products Group Valley Electric Company Valley Mountain Regional Center Viacom Outdoor Village West Arco Wal-Mart Tracy Western Farm Service Whispering Hope Care Center

#### **STANISLAUS COUNTY**

A.L. Gibert Co. Auto Craft Body & Paint Borders Books & Music Bronco Wine Company California State AA Chateau Convalescent Hospital **Citadel Communications** City of Ceres City of Manteca City of Modesto County of Stanislaus Countz Counter Tops, Inc. Crown Cork And Seal Co CS Integrated CSU. Stanislaus DDM. Inc. Del Monte Foods **Doctors Medical Center** Doubletree Hotel Modesto E&J Gallo Winerv **Emanuel Medical Center** Fabricated Extrusions Frito-Lay Inc Hershey Chocolate Hi-Tec Sports U.S.A., Inc Hy-Lond International Paper JC Trucking Co Keyes Union Elem School Dist KOSO B93 Kraft Foods Liquid Container L.P. Major Sysco Modesto A's Pro. Baseball Club Modesto Bee Modesto Building Maintenance Modesto City Schools Modesto Convalescent Hospital Modesto Court Room Modesto Tent & Awning NASCO National Health Plans Oak Valley Hospital Ogden Martin Systems Pacific Southwest Container Pacific Star Communications Pac-West Telecomm Inc. Procter & Gamble San Joaquin Co. Plant Engineering San Joaquin Valley APCD Santa Fe Aggregates, Inc.

Silgan Containers Corp. Stanislaus Area Assoc of Govts Stanislaus Co. Housing Auth. Stanislaus County Pln State Farm Insurance Trivalley Growers Plant One US Postal Service USPS Salida USPS Turlock Valley Color Graphics Valley First Credit Union Valley Fresh, Inc. Velasquez Dairy Waterloo Food & Fuel Wood Colony Millwork YMCA of Stanislaus County

#### TULARE COUNTY

Advanced Food Products Amber Foods Bank of The Sierra Beckman Coulter, Inc. Bret's Auto Center Butler Manufacturing Co C & C Computer Services California Pretzel Company Cavale-Taylor & Co Insurance Central Valley Regional Chicago Title Co. City of Farmersville City of Porterville City of Tulare City of Visalia College of The Sequoias Color-Box Corrwood Containers Costco Wholesale Early California Foods Educational Employees CU Family Healthcare Network Farmersville Unified School Dist. Fisher Mfg. Franzen-Hill Corp. Frito-Lay, Inc. Gas & Goodies Holiday Inn Visalia Hotel & Conference Cntr. Ivex Corporation J C Penney Kaweah Delta Health Care Dist. Kaweah River Rock Company Kawneer Company Inc. Kmart #3916 Knudsen Moore North America Outpatient Health & Safety Pettigrew Harvest & Trucking Porterville College Porterville Development Center PSI-Tronix Inc PW Pipe Radisson Hotel Rita B. & Company Ruiz Food Products, Inc. Screw Conveyor Pacific Corp Sequoia / Kings Canyon Natl Pks

Snowden School Southern California Edison Co. Stanley Bostitch State Farm Insurance Tavcal Press The Adgap Group The Gas Company TPG Consulting Inc. Trucker's Mini Mart Tulare Cnty Environmental Health Tulare Co. Counsel Tulare Co. Env Health Svcs Tulare Co. Fairgrounds Tulare Co. Health Center Tulare Co. IHSS Tulare Co Library Tulare Co. Resource Mgmt. Agency Tulare Co. UC Coop Ext. Tulare Co. Office of Education Tulare Co. Veterans Service Office Tulare Dist. Healthcare Sys. Tulare Food Mart Tule River Indian Health Center U.S. Forest Service-Tule River United Wholesale Lumber US Cold Storage Visalia Cyclery Visalia Medical Clinic Visalia Racquet Club Visalia Times-Delta Visalia Unified School District Visalia YMCA Voltage Multipliers Inc Warren & Baerg Manufacturing Ziering Allergy & Respiratory Ctr

## Watch for Spare the Air info all summer long

Starting in July, we will send Spare the Air Partners regular updates with new information and useful tips you can use in your Spare the Air campaigns. Visit *www.valleyair.org* for Spare the Air stories and information you can incorporate into internal communications. Or, call (559) 230-6000.



## Air quality news in brief

### EPA approves 'extreme' designation

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approved a request by the Valley Air District's Governing Board to downgrade the Valley's ozone status from "severe" to "extreme" non-attainment. The decision is a realistic step toward achieving attainment, District officials said.

The District's Governing Board, which is made up of 11 Valley elected officials, voted unanimously to request the downgrade, which extends the deadline to clean the air from 2005 to 2010. It also stops \$2 billion in federal sanctions and \$36 million in industrial fines. Autos and trucks – the cause of nearly 60 percent of the Valley's smog problem – are under the direct control of the state and federal governments. The 2010 deadline leaves time for crucial new state and federal regulations governing mobile sources to go into effect, enabling the District to meet its goals.

#### Rule changes impact agriculture

New air quality-related laws adopted last year, along with federal requirements to attain clean air standards, have prompted rules that greatly affect San Joaquin Valley farmers. The first removes the decades-old legal exemption for agricultural operations from permitting requirements. The Valley's 8,000 farms will now follow the same air pollution control rules that regulate other businesses. The Air Resources Board has determined that farms, dairies, orchards and other ag operations contribute 26% of summer smog-forming emissions in the Valley and more than 50% of particulate matter emissions during the fall and winter.

## Residents lit fewer fires – helped improve winter air quality

Outstanding cooperation by Valley residents in voluntarily curtailing their fireplace and woodstove use resulted in only two days that wood burning was prohibited last winter. This was the first year the District asked that residents "Check Before You Burn" fireplaces and other wood-burning heaters during unhealthy air quality periods. Wood-burning bans were called on Nov. 18 in Fresno and Kern counties and in Fresno County only on Jan. 23. On days when the air quality was unhealthy for sensitive people, wood burning was discouraged.

#### Proposed rule would reduce school bus emissions

Reducing school children's exposure to toxic air pollutants from school buses is the goal of a new rule under development. Rule 9310 would require diesel bus fleets that transport K-12 public and private school students to meet requirements for reduced emissions. A 2003 study by the Air Resources Board showed that riding a school bus for 13 years could increase a child's lifetime cancer risk by about 4% and could increase respiratory symptoms by 6%. School districts and fleet operators would have until 2015 to ensure their buses meet state and federal tailpipe emission standards and could purchase only state-of-the-art school buses after January 1, 2005. Gasoline engines and engines fueled with compressed natural gas (CNG) emit fewer pollutants than diesel engines and would not be subject to the new rule. In the last five years, the Air District has provided \$2.8 million in grants to school districts for CNG buses and fueling facilities, and about \$1 million for installation of particulate control devices on 148 diesel school buses.

# How to find a Rideshare partner

Sharing a ride is a great way to Spare the Air! Fresno State University and the Council of Fresno County Governments have joined forces to help Vallev residents find rideshare partners through a user-friendly website. The site, www.valleyrides.com, provides drivers or riders with an easy way to find someone seeking a carpool partner, who lives within a one- or two-mile radius and has similar work or school schedules.

## Summer 2003 in review . . .

June through August 2003 was about average for Spare the Air days. However, September was unusually hot and wildfires burned in the central and southern parts of the state, leading to a significant increase in the number of bad air days recorded. A large amount of nitrogen oxides (NOx), an ozone precursor, was emitted by the wildfires. The Valley also experienced a long episode of high temperatures in September along with high pressure and little or no air movement to disperse the pollution. Due to these factors, the District received 15 violations of the EPA's one-hour ozone standard in September. The average number of violations for September is 6.

# Spare the Air days

	2003	2002	
Northern Region	38	27	San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced
Central Region	40	30	Madera, Fresno, Kings
Southern Region	41	30	Tulare, valley portion of Kern

Control District Air Pollution Yalley nuppeot nes



[559] 230-6000 / www.valleyair.org 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave. / Fresno, CA 93726

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**Southern Region** 2700 M St., Suite 275 Bakersfield, CA 93301 (661) 326-6900

Fresno, CA 93726 (559) 230-6000

(209) 557-6400 **Central Region** 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave.

**Northern Region** 4230 Kiernan Ave., Suite 130 Modesto, CA 95356

including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the valley portion of Kern. For information about air quality or compliance issues, visit www.valleyair.org, or call or visit the nearest District office.

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District covers eight counties

## Save the Date **Air Quality Symposium** Sept. 29 – 30, 2004 Holiday Inn Select, Bakersfield

## **2004 GOVERNING BOARD**

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

Barbara Patrick, Chair Supervisor, Kern County

Thomas W. Mayfield, Vice Chair Supervisor, Stanislaus County

**Mike Maggard** Councilmember, City of Bakersfield

Judith G. Case Supervisor, Fresno County

**Tony Barba** Supervisor, Kings County

**Ronn Dominici** Supervisor, Madera County

Sam Armentrout Councilmember, City of Madera

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Supervisor, Merced County

Jack A. Sieglock Supervisor, San Joaquin County

J. Steven Worthley Supervisor, Tulare County

**David L. Crow** Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer