



# VALLEY AIR NEWS

## Not too early to enter 2007 calendar contest

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District invites all young artists between kindergarten and 12th grade to submit an entry to the District's 2007 calendar contest.

Each year, the District distributes twenty-thousand calendars, free to schools, community groups, health-care facilities, churches and non-profit organizations.

The deadline for entries is Sept. 30, but the District encourages teachers to have their students submit entries before summer recess. All entries should be submitted on an 8½ X 11 sheet of paper, in landscape orientation and drawn in color.

Fourteen drawings with clean-air themes will be selected, reproduced and the artists' photos will be featured in the District's 2007 calendar. Entry forms and more information about ways to clean the air are available online at [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org).

Entries must contain the child's name, address, phone number, age, grade and school, and should be mailed to: 2007 Calendar Contest, Valley Air District, 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., Fresno, CA 93726.



## Retire your gas lawn mower

Trade it in for a cordless, electric mower and pay only \$150 at the following scheduled events:



### Bakersfield, Saturday, May 20

California State University, Bakersfield, Parking Lot "I" on Runner Drive just north of Camino Media

### Visalia, Saturday, June 3

College of the Sequoias, Parking Lot # 7 at Mooney Blvd. and Meadow Lane

### Fresno, Saturday, June 10

Fresno State University, Parking Lot "Q" at Cedar and Barstow

### Merced, Saturday, June 17

Merced College, Parking Lot "C" at Yosemite Ave. and M St.

### Stockton, Saturday, June 24

San Joaquin Delta College, 5151 Pacific Ave., Parking Lot "H2"

MOWERS MUST BE DRAINED OF ALL FLUIDS BEFORE TRADE-IN!  
See our website for all details at [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org)

## Air District reaches PM10 attainment

For the first time since the passage of the Clean Air Act, the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin has reached federal health-based standards for particulate matter pollution measuring ten microns and smaller (PM10).

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District has reached federal standards for this pollutant by recording three consecutive calendar years with no violations of the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for PM10.

Currently classified as Serious Nonattainment for PM10, the Valley Air District has applied to be reclassified as in attainment for this pollutant. The process includes submitting a letter to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) requesting the reclassification.

After CARB has reviewed all the data, the agency will request that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officially declare the San Joaquin Valley as in attainment for PM10.

"This is a monumental achievement that could not have happened without a great deal of hard work, cooperation and commitment from everyone involved," said Seyed Sadredin, Executive Director of the Air District. "But the work is not done. We need to maintain this standard and reach attainment for other pollutants such as ozone."

Once the reclassification is approved by the EPA, the District is required to develop a PM10 maintenance plan. The District must also work to reach attainment of the PM2.5 standard and the eight-hour ozone standard.

In 1990, the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin experienced 55 days exceeding the 24-hour standard for PM10. The cooperative efforts of the Valley Air District, industry and valley residents brought the number of unhealthy days down to 12 in 2001. No violations have been recorded since.

PM10 is a mix of pollutants including soot, tiny droplets of liquid and chemicals, flyash and dust, that can bypass the body's natural defenses and lodge deep in the lungs. Studies have linked particulate pollution to the reduction of lung function, increased hospital and emergency room admissions, and premature deaths. Substantial improvement in PM10 air quality is a major step forward in improving the quality of life for all Valley residents.

