Air District focuses on particulate matter for June conference

Bringing together the country’s top researchers to discuss:
• Environmental processes that create and distribute PM 2.5 pollution
• Key sources and factors shaping public exposure
• Areas of emerging scientific consensus
• How research can help shape future District PM 2.5 policies and control measures

John Balmes, MD
Professor of Medicine at UCSF, professor of Environmental Health Sciences at UC Berkeley, and member of the California Air Resources Board.

Henry Jay Forman, PhD
Professor in the UC Merced School of Natural Sciences, and the Governor's appointed scientist to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Governing Board.

Also featuring:
• Dr. Terry Gordon, New York University School of Medicine
• Dr. Katharine Hammond, UC Berkeley
• Speakers from Cal Tech ... UCLA ... EPA ... and more!

June 9-10, 2010
Holiday Inn, Fresno Downtown Convention Center
Register at: http://www.valleyair.org/Symposiums/2010PMConference/Main.htm

Does e-TRIP apply to you?

Rule 9410, Employer Based Trip Reduction (eTRIP), was adopted by the Air District in December 2009.

The rule requires larger employers to establish trip reduction programs for their employees. The eTRIP rule encourages reducing single-occupancy vehicle trips in an effort to reduce emissions associated with work commutes.

Does this rule apply to your organization? If you have at least 100 eligible employees at a worksite, you may be required to create alternatives that encourage your employees to commute to work in some way other than a single-occupancy vehicle. Excluded employees include:
• Employees who DO NOT report to work between 6 A.M. and 10 A.M.
• Part-time, seasonal and temporary employees
• Employees who home garage their work vehicles
• Farm workers, field personnel and construction workers
• Independent contractors and volunteers
• Emergency health and safety employees
• Employees who are on-call at least 50 percent of the time.

Dates to remember
• July 1, 2010 – Eligible employers must register with the Air District
• September 1, 2011 – Employers must submit marketing and support strategies to the Air District
• September 1, 2012 – Employers must submit services and facilities strategies
• September 1, 2013 – Employers must submit transportation, alternative schedules and incentives to the Air District.

Complete information and online registration for eTRIP is available on the District’s website at: www.valleyair.org/tripreduction.htm.
You can also e-mail questions to: tripreduction@valleyair.org.

District administers zero-emission incentive program

The Valley Air District is now accepting applications for rebates on new, electric utility terrain vehicles (UTVs) for agricultural use.

Nearly $1 million is available to offset the cost of purchasing agricultural ATVs and UTVs through the Agricultural UTV Rebate Project, awarded by the state Air Resources Board. The grant provides rebates of 15 percent of the manufacturer’s suggested retail price, up to $2,500 per vehicle, for new, certified zero-emission vehicles. The Air District is administering the statewide program.

“This program is greatly needed by the agriculture industry to offset the costs of zero-emissions vehicles that will benefit all of us,” said Samir Sheikh, director of the District’s Strategies and Incentives department.

Individuals, businesses, public agencies and entities, and non-profit organizations involved in California agricultural operations are eligible for the rebate. There is no limit on the number of vehicles purchased per applicant.

For more information about eligibility, vehicles and rebate amounts, or to obtain a rebate application, visit the District’s website at www.valleyair.org or call 559-230-5800. Applications may be submitted online or through the mail.

Does e-TRIP apply to you?