

AIR ALERT!

District launches Air Alert system

Air Alert notifications are called when Valley counties experience conditions that may lead to exceeding a health-based ozone (smog) standard.

When an Air Alert is called by the Air District, Valley residents and businesses are advised to put measures into place that reduce vehicle use. These include carpooling, vanpooling, using alternative transportation, avoiding the use of drive-through services and refraining from vehicle idling.

Other ways that individuals can reduce air pollution include:

- Riding a bike or walking to your destination;
- Using an electric or manual lawn mower rather than a gas-powered mower;
- Using a propane barbecue instead of charcoal and lighter fluid;
- Using pump sprays rather than aerosol.

You can find these and a many other easy ways to reduce air pollution in your daily life, especially during Air Alerts by visiting www.healthyairliving.com.

Air alerts are announced by the media. However, anyone can sign up to receive alerts by e-mail on the Air District's website at www.valleyair.org.

District's Heavy Duty Engine Incentive Program accepts CNG applications for school buses

The Air District is accepting applications to replace expired or expiring Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) tanks in school buses within the San Joaquin Valley.



The criteria for eligible projects are:

- Public school districts in San Joaquin Valley that own their buses
- School buses currently registered and in operation transporting children to and from school in the San Joaquin Valley
- Model year 1992 or newer.
- Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of at least 10,001 lbs.
- CNG tank certification expires within eighteen months of application.

For more information on this program, call (559) 230-5800 or e-mail weberip@valleyair.org. Applications are available on the Air District website at www.valleyair.org.

Residents cautioned on danger of smoke inhalation

Due to recent wildfires affecting the San Joaquin Valley, residents are urged to take precautionary measures as appropriate if smoke is evident in their immediate area.

Residents who can smell or see smoke at ground-level are strongly advised to take action to avoid exposure.

Smoke contains particulate matter, a form of pollution that is dangerous to human health. High levels of particulate matter – small pieces of airborne material such as soot and ash – can cause serious health problems, aggravate lung disease, trigger asthma attacks and acute bronchitis, and increase risk of respiratory infections and heart attacks.

In the event of exposure to smoke, people with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctors' advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Additionally, older adults and children should avoid prolonged exposure, strenuous activities or heavy exertion. Everyone else should reduce prolonged exposure, strenuous activities or heavy exertion.

The Air District provides current air quality information as well as forecasts that take fire impacts into account. For air-quality forecasts by county, residents can call toll-free (1 800 SMOG INFO) or visit www.valleyair.org.

*Share a ride
Bring your lunch
Ride your bike or walk to work
Make every
Friday at work
an Air-Friendly
Friday!*