Funding available for Heavy Duty Waste Haulers

The Valley Air District is accepting applications to fund up to $50,000 toward the cost of new waste transfer vehicles operating within the San Joaquin Valley.

Owners of heavy-duty trucks that haul waste have until May 19 to apply for this $1.9 million program to replace their older, high-polluting trucks with new, cleaner and more efficient trucks.

This Request for Applications (RFA) is being issued to solid waste transportation companies and owner/operators hauling from waste transfer stations to landfills and waste facilities within the District boundaries. Funding priority will be given to trucks that travel exclusively within the Valley. The replacement trucks will be 90 percent cleaner than those they are replacing, helping the Valley meet critical air quality goals.

All applicants will be notified of their status and unfunded applications will be kept for future consideration as additional funds become available.

To be eligible for the program, existing trucks must:
- Be in compliance with all applicable state regulations
- Be currently in operation
- Have a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 lbs. or greater
- Be equipped with a 1996-2003 model year diesel engine

For more information and to obtain applications, visit www.valleyair.org/grants/wastehaulers.htm or call 559-230-5800.

Time to mow? Go electric

This is the perfect time of year to take advantage of the Air District’s incentive program that provides Valley residents with a substantial rebate when trading in their gas mower for an electric model.

Electric lawn mowers remove a significant amount of emissions from the air basin; for example, using one gas-powered mower for an hour produces emissions equivalent to driving 12 late-model cars for the same period of time.

Electric mowers are also lighter, quieter, easier to use and maintain, and work just as well as gas mowers. In addition there are no gas or oil spills and zero emissions.

The Valley Air District makes the process easy through the Clean Green Yard Machines Incentive program. From the District’s website at www.valleyair.org/lawnmowers, you can view and download the application, guidelines, manufacturer’s list and participating dismantler’s list. Materials are also available in Spanish.

Below is a chart displaying rebate amounts for eligible mowers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purchase Price</th>
<th>Eligible Rebate Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$200 or less</td>
<td>Up to $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$201 to $350</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$351 or more</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Spring events to put on your calendar

April 19 - Earth Day Modesto, Graceada Park, 10a-4p.
April 26 - Garden Fest, Bakersfield College, 9a-4p.
April 26 - TITU, Turlock, Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, 9a-3p.
April 26 - Riverfest, Jacob Myers Park, Riverbank, 10a-3p.
May 1 - World Asthma Day Health Fair, Memorial Medical Center, Modesto, 10a-2p.
May 3 - Earth Day, City of Visalia, St. John’s Riverwalk, 8a-1p.
May 3 - World Asthma Day Health Fair, Mercy Medical Center, Merced, 8:30a-1p.
May 10 - TITU, Bakersfield, 9a-3p.
May 12-16 - Bike To Work Week with Bike Bakersfield: http://www.bikebakersfield.org/
May 13 - Bike to Work Day, Oakdale at Oakdale Bike Shop
May 14 - Bike to Work Day, Stockton, Janet Leigh Plaza, 6:30-9a.
May 15 - Bike to Work Day, Modesto, 10th St. Plaza, 6:30-8:30a
May 15 - Bike to Work Day, Lodi, Veteran's Plaza, 6:30-8:30a.
May 15 - Bike to Work Day Corporate Challenge with I Bike Fresno and Kaiser Permanente: http://bike2workfresno.org/
May 16 - Bike to Work Day, Merced, Energizer stations throughout the city, 6:30a-10a.
May 16 - Bike To Work Day, Turlock at the Farmer’s Market
May 18 - Asthma Education Health Fair, San Joaquin County Asthma Coalition, Stockton Children’s Museum, 12n-4p.
May 23 - Earth Day Celebration at Golden Valley Health, Merced. 10a-3p.