New Report to the Community now available

Public accountability is a “top priority for the District,” said Seyed Sadredin, the Air District’s executive director and air pollution control officer, in the introduction to the just-published 2014 Annual Report to the Community. The information-rich document provides Valley residents with a detailed account of the District’s operations for the preceding year.

In addition, the report outlines the District’s goals, objectives and legal obligations as well as a look at progress made, in a concise, comprehensible format.

Highlights of the new publication include:

- Progress and challenges
- Drought relief efforts
- The impact of unusual weather on air quality
- New ozone standard
- Neighborhood by neighborhood air quality information
- Healthy Air Living Schools Program
- Biomass and options for agricultural waste disposal
- Streamlining CEQA implementation
- Changes to the District’s health risk-management policies
- Transboundary ozone pollution
- Grant programs
- Financial Excellence Award

Sadredin’s introductory message provides readers with perspective on the District’s accomplishments, including significant progress in reducing summertime smog, leading to reduced ozone exposures of more than 90 percent by the guidelines of the current 8-hour standard, and the second consecutive year in which the Valley had no violations of the 1-hour ozone standard.

“Achieving this milestone was remarkable,” especially considering the Valley’s strings of high summer temperatures, Sadredin said.

This year, the District will send a second request to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to designate the Valley as meeting the 1-hour standard, which has been a focus for more than two decades.

Two-thousand copies of the report have been printed and are available Valley-wide. The 2014 Report to the Community is also available at www.valleyair.org.

Follow the Air District

Mark your calendar

- April 18 - Garden Fest - Bakersfield College, 9am-4pm
- April 18 - Modesto Earth Day Celebration, Graceada Park, 10am-4pm
- April 18 - Delaware North Earth Day Fair - Grant Grove at Kings Canyon National Park, 11am-3pm.
- April 22 - Earth Day at Modesto Junior Colleg, West Campus, 10am-3pm
- April 24 - Golden Valley Health Centers Celebrate Earth Day - GVHC Merced Campus, 10am-3pm
- April 25 - Tune In & Tune Up - Stanislaus County Fairgrounds, Turlock, 9am-3pm
- April 25 - Earth Day Fresno - Radio Park, 10a-4pm: http://www.earthdayfresno.org/
- April 25 - Earth/Arbor Day Visalia - St. John's Riverwalk Park, 10am-2pm
- April 25 - Greater Bakersfield Green Expo, Yokuts Park: http://www.gbgreenexpo.org/
- April 26 - Stockton Earth Day, Victory Park: http://livegreensanjoaquin.org/
- May 2 - Mercy’s Annual Family Festival, Health and Stroke Awareness Run - Mercy Medical Center, Merced, 8am-2pm
- May 7 - World Asthma Day Health Fair - Memorial Medical Center, Modesto, 10am-2pm
- May 7 - Bike to Work and School Day - Merced, 6:30am-10
- May 9 - Tune In & Tune Up - Kern County Fairgrounds, 9am-3pm
- May 13 - Bike to Work Day - Stockton, Janet Leigh Plaza, 7am-9am
- May 14 - Bike to Work Day - Modesto, 10th St. Place 6:30am-8:30am
- May 17 - World Asthma Day Health Fair, Children’s Museum of Stockton, 12n-4pm
- May 30 - Tune In & Tune Up - San Joaquin County Fairgrounds, Stockton, 9am-3pm
- June 13 - Tune In & Tune Up - International Ag Center, Tulare, 9am-3pm
- June 27 - Tune In & Tune Up - Merced Fairgrounds. 9am-3pm