

VALLEY AIR NEWS

A monthly publication of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - January 2016

World Ag Expo February 9-11, 2016

Once again, the Valley Air District is proud to be an exhibitor at the world's largest annual agricultural exposition.

The District will have staff available at our booth to answer all your questions regarding air pollution reduction, ag-related regulations, grant opportunities and all other District programs.

Informational brochures on a variety of District programs will also be available. We hope you'll stop by.

Below are photos from last year's Ag Expo.



Madera County Supervisor and Air District Board member, Tom Wheeler, speaks at HAL Schools event in Madera.



Healthy Air Living Schools grows and evolves

Reducing the exposure of Valley students to poor air quality is a critical priority of school administrators, health officials and the Valley Air District. The Healthy Air Living (HAL) Schools program is available free to all Valley schools and supports them in making informed decisions about outdoor activities in relation to air quality.

The program components include the Real-Time Air Advisory Network (RAAN), anti-idling educational materials and the Real-Time Outdoor Advisory Risk (ROAR) guidelines that provide recommendations for outdoor activity depending on air quality levels. Materials, training and support are provided at no cost.

In 2015, the District (and the California Asthma Collaborative) recruited 707 schools to participate in the program and showcased five schools around the Valley as examples of what it means to be a "Healthy Air Living school."

Since Oct. 2015, press conferences highlighting these schools have taken place in Madera, Tulare, Bakersfield, Stockton and Turlock. Additional events in Merced, Sanger and Hanford are also being planned.

Another component of Healthy Air Living Schools is the Clean Air Champions Pilot Project, which provides participating classrooms with \$250 mini grants to create their own projects and activities around air quality, environment and health.

Seventy Valley classrooms participated

as Clean Air Champions in 2015.

Also, the recently developed RAAN website "widget" makes it easier for schools and teachers to access the information on RAAN.

The widget delivers individualized, hourly RAAN information directly to a school or agency's website.

Here is the link for directions to set up the widget on your homepage:

<http://valleyair.org/raan/widget/>

Example of RAAN Widget



Upcoming Tune In & Tune Up events

Tune In and Tune Up provides Valley residents with free emissions testing to simulate a real smog test. Those who fail are eligible for up to \$500 in vehicle repairs to get "smog-ready."

Here are dates and locations for upcoming events:

- Jan. 23 - San Joaquin County Fairgrounds
- Feb. 6 - Porterville Fairgrounds
- Feb. 20 - Kern County Raceway Park
- Feb. 27 - Madera Fairgrounds
- March 5 - Turlock Fairgrounds
- March 19 - Fresno (location TBA)
- April 9 - San Joaquin County Fairgrounds
- April 16 - Turlock Fairgrounds
- April 23 - West Hills College, Lemoore

More details: <http://valleyair.org/grants/pass.htm>.

