

VALLEY AIR NEWS

July 2018



Monitor wildfires through website

Wildfire season is upon us. Residents can keep up-to-date on wildfires impacting the San Joaquin Valley by visiting the Valley Air District's Wildfire Information website at www.valleyair.org/wildfires.

As with the recent County Fire that burned about 90,000 acres in Napa and Yolo counties, and the current Ferguson Fire happening near Yosemite National Park, wildfires in and near the San Joaquin Valley can affect our air quality and public health. Wildfire smoke is a mixture of gases and fine particulates, which can trigger asthma attacks, aggravate chronic heart and lung diseases, and increase the risk of heart attack and stroke.

Reduce ozone levels in the Valley

The sweltering days of summer are here in the San Joaquin Valley, which means ozone becomes an issue with heat and stagnant conditions.

An odorless, colorless gas, ozone is created when nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) have a chemical reaction in the sunlight and heat.

While the Valley continues to see outdoor air quality getting better, more can still be done. Valley residents can do their part by paying attention to air quality and making personal changes to improve it.

Valley residents can:

*Sign up to receive text or email alerts when air quality deteriorates at myraan.com

*Download the new "Valley Air" app to monitor air quality levels

*Drive less – carpool, walk, bicycle, take public transportation, bring your lunch to work

*Avoid vehicle idling – turn off your engine while waiting

*Apply for a rebate to replace an old, gas lawn mower with an electric one at www.valleyair.org/lawnmowers

*Pay attention to emission ratings when shopping for a new vehicle. The Drive Clean Rebate Program provides rebates to purchase or lease qualified electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles.

Public invited to PM2.5 Attainment Plan workshop

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is holding a public workshop with the California Air Resources Board to discuss the 2018 PM2.5 Attainment Plan at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 31.

The workshop will provide an update on the continued efforts in air quality attainment modeling, the proposed attainment strategy and the remaining steps to develop a comprehensive plan.

The workshop will be held at the District's Fresno office, 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave. The public can also attend the workshop at the District's Modesto and Bakersfield offices via teleconference or watch the webcast at www.valleyair.org/webcast.

For more information, call the District at (559) 230-6000.

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AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
www.valleyair.org