District’s Ag Tractor Replacement Program receives more funding and increases incentive levels

The Valley Air District’s highly successful Agricultural Equipment Replacement Program received a boost in funding and approval to enhance incentive amounts recently.

This spring, the District’s Governing Board voted to accept more than $168 million in state Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) Program funds from the Californian Air Resources Board to support the District’s ag equipment replacement program. The District’s portion was 80% of the total funding provided to air districts statewide for the FARMER Program.

To date, the program has funded a total of 6,165 ag tractors, ag trucks, zero-emissions ag UTVs and irrigation pump engines in the Valley. Additionally, incentive levels will increase to 70% of the equipment replacement costs for agricultural operations between 500-101 acres. Small agricultural operations of 100 acres or less can qualify for up to 80% of the eligible costs for equipment replacement, which is the maximum allowed under the FARMER Program guidelines.

For more info, visit the District’s grants webpage: valleyair.org/grants.

Celebrate Air Quality Awareness Week May 2-6

Every year, the Environmental Protection Agency spotlights air quality and the importance of learning how air quality affects health and everyday life during Air Quality Awareness Week (AQAW).

This year’s theme is “Be Air Aware and Prepared!” and will take place over a five-day campaign from May 2 through 6. The public is encouraged to learn about different topics related to air quality, such as wildfires and smoke and the health impacts of pollution.

Make sure to follow the District on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram and look for our AQAW messaging. Plus, share your “aware and prepared” messages, tag us and use the hashtag #AQAW2022 to be a part of the global conversation.