



COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE BULLETIN
February 2016

Conservation Management Practice Plans

In 2004, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District adopted District Rule 4550-*Conservation Management Practices*. The purpose of the Rule is to limit fugitive dust emissions from agricultural operation sites by implementing and documenting a plan to reduce dust and Particulate Matter (PM10) emissions from on-farm sources, such as unpaved roads and equipment yards, land preparation, harvest activities and other cultural practices.

Who is subject to this Rule?

Farmers with 100 acres or more of contiguous or adjacent farmland, including fallowed land, are required to prepare and implement a Conservation Management Practices (CMP) Plan for each crop they farm.

What is a CMP Plan?

A CMP is an activity or practice that farmers will implement on their farms to help reduce dust or particulate matter from getting into the air.

Am I going to have to buy new equipment or modify my farming techniques?

Not necessarily since the CMP plan is a menu based process that gives several options, which in most cases, may include the good farming practices that you may already be using. Practices such as speed reductions on unpaved roads and yards, night harvesting, reducing agricultural chemical applications through use of integrated pest management are effective methods or reducing dust emissions.

How do I prepare a CMP plan?

The District has developed a series of easy to fill out forms designed to allow growers to select practices from the following categories for each crop: Land Preparation and Cultivation, Harvest Activities, Unpaved Roads, Unpaved Equipment Yards and other cultural practices. The CMPs were designed to be workable and to provide growers with flexibility in selecting measures, if a practice in a specific category cannot be implemented, then a grower may select an alternative CMP from another category.

Is there a Fee?

CMP plans are charged an application fee and then renewal fees every 2 years thereafter in accordance with District Rule 3190.

What if I have a plan but make crop or management practice changes?

When making changes to the type of crops grown or management practices, you will need to submit a CMP modification application form. If you have already made changes, please submit a modification form as quickly as possible. To avoid possible enforcement action, please submit the modification application as soon as possible because beginning in July, District staff will be enforcing this requirement.

Where can I get more information?

Please contact the closest regional office below for additional information or assistance in filling out the application.