

News Release

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For Immediate Release



San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution
Control District

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Air District kicks off sixth lawn mower trade-in program

The Air District kicks off its 2007 Clean Green Yard Machines program today, immediately following Earth Day, with a revamped program that makes it even easier to trade in an old, polluting, gas-powered mower for a brand-new, cordless, electric model – at an outstanding discount.

One gas mower can emit as much pollution as 40 new or late-model cars operating over the same period of time. Electric mowers produce no on-site emissions, are lighter, quieter and easy to use. Each year, the Air District offers residents a sizeable discount on non-polluting mowers.

This year, participants don't have to wait in long lines at single-day events or travel outside their county to take advantage of this offer. Instead, the Air District is giving Valley residents a six-week period to request a program voucher and then turn in their old, gas mowers at recycling centers in every Valley county. The voucher and trade-in allows Valley residents to purchase a no emissions Neuton cordless, electric lawn mower at a huge discount. Neuton and the Valley air District are offering this \$418 mower for only **\$150** with their trade-in.

Here's how the program works:

- Upon request, the Air District will provide a coded voucher to Valley residents, who can then turn in their old mower, *drained of all fluids*, at a participating recycler in their own county. The recycler will add a coded sticker to their voucher. Mowers retired through this program will be recycled for their raw materials.
- The participant then calls the Neuton Lawn Company's toll-free number to order their new mower, including a rear bag, rechargeable battery and mulching kit. The new mower is delivered directly to the customer's home within a couple of days.

Valley residents can request a voucher from the Air District by e-mailing public.education@valleyair.org, or by calling one of the three District offices. In Modesto, call: 209-557-6400; in Bakersfield, 661-326-6900; and in Fresno, 559-230-5800. For more information, visit www.valleyair.org.

This year's Clean Green Yard Machines program is cosponsored by The Neuton Lawn Mower Company; The California Air Resources Board; PG&E; and the counties of Stanislaus, Merced and Tulare. Participating recycling companies are Atwater Iron and Metal; Golden State Metals; J & H Metals; Levi's Iron and Metal; Madera County Resource Management Agency; Modesto Junk Company; Stockton Recycling Center; and Tulare County Recycling.

The San Joaquin Valley air basin is classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as "Serious Non-Attainment" for the national eight-hour ozone standard and must reduce ozone pollution within the District's eight counties: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the Valley portion of Kern.

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