Clean air partners launch the 2002 Spare the Air season

Just as the discussions on the Valley's smog problems reach a critical stage, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will kick off the Spare the Air program to involve the public in air quality improvements this summer. The public outreach program will begin with Drill Day on Thursday, June 6. On this day, the public, the Valley Air District’s 742 Employer Partners and the media practice their Spare the Air procedures in preparation for smoggy days throughout the summer.

Through the Spare the Air program, now entering its seventh season, the Valley Air District alerts the media, businesses, schools and other groups when air quality is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. When a Spare the Air day is forecast, the public is encouraged to reduce or avoid smog-forming activities (such as driving or using gas-powered lawn equipment) until pollution levels decrease. These Spare the Air notifications also recommend that individuals take steps to reduce their exposure to unhealthy air.

This year’s Spare the Air program will feature enhanced support from businesses and public agencies. To announce the addition of a sixth round-trip train between the San Joaquin Valley and Sacramento earlier this spring, the Valley Air District will join Amtrak in promoting train travel as a means of reducing emissions. Amtrak will distribute 1000 Spare the Air travel kits to children riding a San Joaquin train in early June. The kits contain a toy, travel activities and information about the District’s Clean Air Kid’s Club and Spare the Air programs. Additionally, to promote public transportation Fresno Area Express is providing 800 bus passes that the District’s employer partners can distribute to employees.
To kick off the Spare the Air season, 88 employer partners throughout the Valley are participating in the third annual Big Clean Air Payoff. These organizations will offer discounts to customers who practice air friendly behaviors or will educate employees on ways to prevent air pollution to promote the kick off. All efforts, however, will pay off with cleaner air for all Valley residents.

The organizations participating in the Big Clean Air Pay-Off are as follows:

Advanced Drainage Systems Inc.-Madera
Am-Gold Corp-Fresno
AT&T Broadband - Merced
AT&T Broadband - Stockton
Bank of the West-Lodi
Bartels Research-Clovis
Beckman Coulter, Inc.-Porterville
B.E. Giovannetti & Sons-Huron
Biola Community Svcs. Dept.
Blair, Church & Flynn Consulting Eng-Fresno
Blueprint Service Co.-Bakersfield
Bronco Wine Co.-Ceres
Calaveras Materials Inc.-Fresno
California Highway Patrol-Fresno
CalTrans-Stockton
CA State Auto Association-Hanford
CA State Auto Association-Madera
CA State Auto Association-Stockton
California State University Fresno
Chateau Convalescent Hospital-Stockton
Check-N-Go-Visalia
Chemical Waste Management-Hanford
City of Clovis
City of Merced
City of Stockton
Clovis Cemetery District
Coco Cola-Bakersfield
Conglas-Bakersfield
Country Club Autobody
Countz Counter Tops, Inc-Turlock
Days Inn Blackstone-Fresno
Delano Police Dept.
Denham Personnel Services-Fresno
Diamond of California-Stockton
Discovery Center-Fresno
Dynamics Inc.-Sanger
H&L Lumber True Value-Oakhurst
Hammer/I-S ARCO-Stockton
Health Care Center-Farmersville
Holz Rubber Co.-Lodi
Horizon Health & Subacute Center-Fresno
House of Redwood, Inc.-Manteca
Hy-Lond Convalescent Hospital-Modesto
Internal Revenue Service-Bakersfield
Kaweah River Rock Company-Woodlake
Kerman Texaco/Car Wash
King of Kings Pregnant Womens Prog-Fresno
Madera Ag Services
Madera Cars Unlimited
Madera Community Hospital
Madera County Dept./Engineering
Modesto Court Room Fitness Ctr.
Modesto Tent & Awwning
National Diversified Sales-Lindsay
National Training Institute-Fresno
North Fork Mono Rancheria
Nuevo Energy Company-Bakersfield
Piccadilly Inn Shaw-Fresno
Regency Thermographers-Madera
San Joaquin Bank-Bakersfield
San Joaquin Regional Transit District
Saroyan Elementary School-Fresno
Schack & Co. Inc.-Tracy
Sherwood Lehman Massucco, Inc.-Fresno
Stanislaus County Planning
State Farm Insurance-Bakersfield
Strocal Inc.-Stockton
Superior Autobody Collision Center-Fresno
The Valley Air District (all three offices)
Thielen & Associates-Fresno
Tulare County -IHSS-Visalia
As in the past, the Valley Air District will issue a Spare the Air notification to the media and employer partners in the early afternoon for the following day by fax or e-mail. Starting this year, private citizens will be able receive these notifications via e-mail as well. Anyone interested in the service may send a request to charlie.goldberg@valleyair.org or call the District’s public education staff at 559-230-5850. Daily air quality information is also available by visiting www.valleyair.org or by calling District's automated smog information line, 1-800-SMOG-INFO (766-4463).