

News Release



San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution
Control District

>>City, features, business, sports
and assignment editors<<

North District Media Contact - Modesto
Anthony Presto
(209) 557-6472

Central District Media Contact - Fresno
Janelle Schneider
(559) 230-5853

South District Media Contact - Bakersfield
Brenda Turner
(661) 326-6981

Air District, Fresno Grizzlies team up for prelude to 2005 Spare the Air season

May 23 (Fresno) – The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and the Fresno Grizzlies are teaming up for a special Spare the Air season prelude on Memorial Day weekend at Grizzlies Stadium!

This year's Spare the Air season begins June 7, but the Air District is kicking off the summertime smog-reduction program with a special event on Saturday, May 28, as the Grizzlies face off with the Tacoma Rainiers. The first 2,500 fans at the stadium for the 7:15 p.m. game will receive a free cooler bag, courtesy of the Air District and Grizzlies. And during the game, the District will give away two environmentally friendly, electric lawnmowers. The drawing is open to anyone with a game ticket.

Spare the Air is a voluntary, summertime program that encourages people to engage in air-friendly behaviors all season long, but especially when air quality is forecast to be unhealthy because of increases in ozone levels (smog). When the Air District declares a Spare the Air Day, residents are encouraged to:

- Walk, bike or carpool instead of driving alone;
- Postpone the use of gas-powered lawn-care equipment;
- When barbecuing, use an electric briquette lighter instead of lighter fluid;
- Organize errands into one trip instead of leaving home many times during the day.

Each summer, there are typically 10 to 40 Spare the Air Days declared in various parts of the Valley.. About 750 Valley employers are Spare the Air Partners, who promise to inform their employees when it's a Spare the Air Day and provide encouragement for air-friendly behaviors.

For more information on how to Spare the Air or become an employer partner, log onto www.valleyair.org or call 559-230-5853.