

# News Release

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For Immediate Release



San Joaquin Valley  
Air Pollution  
Control District

**TO:**

**Local News, Business and  
Agriculture sections**

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## **Workshops to help farmers with conservation plans** Deadline looms for ag sources to submit plans to Air District

*(Fresno, California)* – Farmers throughout the San Joaquin Valley are invited to workshops designed to help them develop dust-control plans as required by new regulations.

Valley Air District rules now require farms comprising 100 acres or more of contiguous land to adopt plans for controlling airborne particulates. The plans, called Conservation Management Practices plans, or CMPs, are due to the Air District by Dec. 31.

At the workshops, representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, county farm bureaus, the ag industry and the Air District will help farmers select conservation practices to include in their plans.

The workshops are being hosted by Agriculture Improving Resources, a coalition of agricultural organizations and government entities formed to help educate farmers and ranchers about air quality issues. A round of 35 similar meetings were held earlier this year.

The workshops will be held from Nov. 30 through Dec. 2 in six Valley counties. They are scheduled as follows:

9 a.m. Nov. 30	Stanislaus County Ag Center, Modesto RSVP to Stanislaus County Farm Bureau: (209) 522-7278
2 p.m. Nov. 30	Los Banos Fairgrounds, Los Banos RSVP to Merced County Farm Bureau: (209) 723-3001
9 a.m. Dec. 1	Kerman Community Center, Kerman RSVP to Fresno County Farm Bureau: (559) 237-0263
2 p.m. Dec. 1	Kings District Fairgrounds, Hanford RSVP to Kings County Farm Bureau: (559) 584-3557
9 a.m. Dec. 2	Kern County Ag Pavilion, Bakersfield RSVP to Kern County Farm Bureau: (661) 397-9635
2 p.m. Dec. 2	Tulare County Ag Commissioner's Office, Tulare RSVP to Tulare County Farm Bureau: (559) 732-8301

Farmers also should be aware that air permits are now required for agricultural operations that emit more than 12.5 tons of nitrogen oxides per year. In general, that amount of air pollution is generated by operations of 350 or more acres that use diesel or gas engines for irrigation. Operations that meet those thresholds but haven't already applied for permits should immediately contact the Natural Resources Conservation Service at (559) 252-2191 or the Valley Air District at the numbers below.

The Valley Air District covers eight counties including San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the valley portion of Kern. For more information, visit [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org) and at the bottom of the page click on "New Requirements for Agricultural Operations." Or, call the nearest District office: Modesto (209) 557-6400, Fresno (559) 230-6000 and Bakersfield (661) 326-6900.

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