

# News Release

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For Immediate Release

TO:

Local News, Business and  
Agriculture sections



San Joaquin Valley  
Air Pollution  
Control District

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## Workshops to help farmers with air permits

*(Fresno, California)* – Farmers, ranchers and dairy operators throughout the San Joaquin Valley are invited to workshops designed to help them develop dust-control plans, determine if they need air permits, and apply for those permits as required by new laws and regulations.

New state laws require farms and animal feeding operations that emit large amounts of certain air pollutants to apply for air permits. Previously, agricultural operations were exempt by state law from air permitting requirements. The deadline for permit applications is June 30. Additionally, Valley Air District regulations now require farms comprising 100 acres or more of contiguous land to adopt plans for controlling airborne particulates. The deadline for farmers to begin implementing the plans is July 1.

At the workshops, representatives from the Valley Air District, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service and county farm bureaus will help farmers determine which regulations apply to them. They also will help farmers fill out and submit the appropriate applications.

The workshops are being held from May 25 through June 10 in eight Valley counties. Agriculture Improving Resources, a coalition of agricultural organizations and government entities formed to help educate farmers and ranchers about air quality issues, is hosting the workshops.

The workshops are scheduled to address two agricultural categories -- general farming and dairy operations -- as follows:

### **General Farming (Reservations required; see phone numbers below)**

9 a.m. May 25	San Joaquin County Farm Bureau in Stockton, San Joaquin County
4 p.m. May 25	San Joaquin County Farm Bureau in Stockton, San Joaquin County
8 a.m. May 26	Westley Firehouse in Westley, Stanislaus County
4 p.m. May 26	Stanislaus Fairgrounds in Turlock, Stanislaus County
8 a.m. May 27	Kerman Community Center in Kerman, Fresno County

4 p.m. May 27	Reedley Community Center in Reedley, Fresno County
8 a.m. June 1	Tulare County Ag Commissioner's Office in Tulare
4 p.m. June 1	Tulare County Farm Bureau in Visalia
8 a.m. June 2	Madera Fairgrounds in Madera, Madera County
4 p.m. June 2	SFA Portuguese Hall in Chowchilla, Madera County
8 a.m. June 3	Los Banos Fairgrounds in Los Banos, Merced County
4 p.m. June 3	UC Cooperative Extension in Merced, Merced County
8 a.m. June 8	UC Cooperative Extension in Bakersfield, Kern County
4 p.m. June 8	Veterans Hall in Wasco, Kern County
8 a.m. June 9	Harris Ranch Restaurant in Coalinga, Fresno County
4 p.m. June 9	Fresno County Farm Bureau in Fresno
8 a.m. June 10	Kings County District Fairgrounds in Hanford

**Dairy Only (No reservations necessary)**

9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. May 25	Masonic Lodge in Escalon, San Joaquin County
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. May 26	Stanislaus Fairgrounds in Turlock, Stanislaus County
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. May 27	Riverdale Memorial Hall in Riverdale, Fresno County
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. June 1	Heritage Social Hall in Tulare, Tulare County
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. June 2	Chowchilla Fairgrounds in Chowchilla, Madera County
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. June 3	Stevinson Hall in Stevinson, Merced County
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. June 8	Kern County Public Services Building in Bakersfield
9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. June 10	UC Cooperative Extension in Hanford, Kings County

To make reservations for the workshops on general farming, and for other inquiries, call the nearest county farm bureau:

Fresno County Farm Bureau: (559) 237-0263  
Kern County Farm Bureau: (661) 397-9635  
Kings County Farm Bureau: (559) 584-3557  
Madera County Farm Bureau: (559) 674-8871  
Merced County Farm Bureau: (209) 723-3001  
San Joaquin County Farm Bureau: (209) 931-4931  
Stanislaus County Farm Bureau: (209) 522-7278  
Tulare County Farm Bureau: (559) 732-8301

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 click on "Farm Permits," or call the nearest District office: Modesto (209) 557-6400, Fresno (559) 230-6000 and Bakersfield (661) 326-6900.

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