

Need a smog repair? Air District offering free help at Saturday event in Modesto

By Ken Carlson

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People needing help with smog repairs may want to take their car to a free smog repair event Saturday at John Thurman Field in Modesto. The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is sponsoring the event for Valley residents. Car owners failing the emissions test can receive a \$500 voucher for repairs. Cars with diesel engines are not eligible. People bringing their vehicle should expect a two-hour wait, according to Valley CAN information online.

The event will run from 8 a.m. to noon at the ballpark, at 601 Neece Drive. The gates may open as early as 6:30 a.m. A co-sponsor is Valley CAN, a public charity that aims to reduce air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley. More information is available at www.valleycan.org.

Controlled burns planned at Site 300 in May

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Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will conduct its annual controlled burn at its Site 300 experimental test site in Corral Hollow Canyon south of Tracy beginning the week of May 16.

The Alameda County Fire Department will conduct the burn along the site fence line and in portions of the site interior. The burn schedule is dependent on weather conditions, which are confirmed by air district meteorologists on the day of a planned burn.

The fire department works under a contract with Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, which manages the Lab for the U.S. Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration. The burn is designed to remove excess vegetation on the site to reduce the risk of wildfire.

The burn plans, prepared for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, are available for viewing in the Tracy Public Library and on the LLNL Environment, Safety & Health website under Prescribed Burns.

For questions or more information, contact Scott Wilson in the Lab's Public Affairs Office at 925-423-3125 or wilson101@llnl.gov.