

VALLEY AIR NEWS

November 2020



\$30 million federal grant to help with ag equipment

The Valley Air District will augment its highly successful grant program with over \$30 million in additional U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) funding to replace old, dirty agricultural tractors and harvesters.

The District was recently awarded funding from the EPA's 2019/2020 Targeted Air Shed Grant Program with \$10,366,695 toward replacing old nut harvesting equipment with low-dust technology and \$20,000,000 toward agricultural tractor replacements. The award is the largest to date from this program.

The District has developed and implemented a robust and effective voluntary incentive program to identify the needs of the Valley ag community and as a result, generated significant emission reductions.

To date, the District's Tractor Replacement Program has provided over \$360 million to replace more than 6,900 older, high-polluting Valley-based agricultural tractors with new, significantly cleaner units. The \$20,000,000 grant will help fund the replacement of approximately 526 older, high-polluting tractors with significantly cleaner Tier 4 tractors.

In addition, the District's Low Dust Nut Harvester Replacement Program has dedicated more than \$1.6 million to replace 29 nut harvesters with new, much cleaner, low-dust equipment. The additional \$10,366,695 from this grant will help fund approximately 170 new, low-dust harvesters.

A complete listing of program requirements for both the Tractor Replacement Program and the Low Dust Nut Harvester Replacement Program can be found at www.valleyair.org/grants or by calling program staff at 559-230-5800.



Register your wood burning device

San Joaquin Valley residents who have invested in clean wood burning devices such as EPA Certified wood/pellet stoves and inserts, need to register their devices with the District for use when the Check Before You Burn declaration is "No Burning Unless Registered."

Registration for EPA certified devices must be renewed every three years in order to continue use under the "No Burning Unless Registered" declaration. A visit from a Registered Wood Burning Heater Professional (RWBHP) is required to ensure that your device is in proper working order and to complete the registration process.

Wood/pellet-fueled devices that are not EPA certified (like very old stoves, open hearth fireplaces and outdoor burning devices) cannot be registered and may only be used when the declaration is "Burning Discouraged."

To get your device registered, visit: www.valleyair.org/CBYBregistration.

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AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
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