

UPDATES

8-Hour Ozone Control Measure Workshop

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently developed a new health standard for ozone, a pollutant that affects Yolo and Solano counties and can cause severe health impacts. The EPA designated the Sacramento Nonattainment Area as a "serious" nonattainment area for this new standard. As a result of this, the air districts in the nonattainment area are required to develop a plan to meet the new standard. Part of the plan includes the development of new "control measures" that are designed to produce reductions in ozone-forming gases. These control measures may be new regulations or amendments to existing regulations, and will affect stationary, mobile and area sources. Attend the workshop to provide input on the current draft list of control measures or to submit additional suggestions.

October 31, 2-4 PM
West Sacramento Civic Center Galleria
Contact: Matt Jones (530) 757-3668

AB 32: Air Pollution: Greenhouse Gases: California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006

The passage of AB 32 requires the state board to adopt regulations to require the reporting and verification of statewide greenhouse gas emissions and to monitor and enforce compliance with this program. The state board will also adopt a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions levels in 1990 to be achieved by 2020, as specified. Also required is the adoption of rules and regulations in an open public process to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions.

California has long been a national and international leader on energy conservation and environmental stewardship efforts and this will have far-reaching effects by encouraging other states, the federal government, and other countries to act.

CALENDAR

October 11, 2006 cancelled
Y-S AQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

October 31, 2006 2 - 4 PM
8 hour Ozone Control Measure Workshop, West Sacramento

November 1, 2006
"Don't Light Tonight" season begins. For a free "Light it Right" brochure call (800) 287-3650.

November 16, 2006
Tall Order Workshops
www.sacog.org

November 8, 2006 9:00 AM
Y-S AQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

December 13, 2006 9:00 AM
Y-S AQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis



1947 Galileo Court, Suite 103
Davis, CA 95618
(530) 757-3650 (800) 287-3650
Ag Burn Line
(530) 757-3660 (800) 246-3660
www.ysaqmd.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



AIR AWARE

A Publication of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

Fall 2006

Recycled beverage containers can be recycled over and over again as well as used for other things - roads, marbles, decorative tiles, surfboards. In the 90's, the recycling of polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles reached a high of 34% of all the bottles produced.

Steel and aluminum cans can be recycled for use in other steel and aluminum products - cars, bikes, appliances, cookware, and more. This not only conserves mineral resources, but the recycling process also uses about 75% less energy than using virgin materials.



Yolo-Solano
Air Quality
Management District
530-757-3650
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NATIONAL RECYCLE DAY IS NOVEMBER 15
The world has changed dramatically in the past century. From individually packaged food servings to disposable diapers, more garbage is generated now than ever before. The average American discards seven and a half pounds of garbage every day. This garbage, the solid waste stream, goes mostly to landfills, where it's compacted and buried. As the waste stream continues to grow, so will the pressures on our landfills, our resources, our environment and the quality of the air we breathe.

It takes energy to make and sell the products we use. Saving energy helps reduce air pollution. By reusing aluminum, paper, glass, plastics, and other materials, we can save production and energy costs, and reduce the negative impacts that the extraction and processing of virgin materials has on the environment including our air quality. Here are a few examples:

- Recycled paper generates 95% less air pollution: each ton saves 60 lbs. of air pollution (Center for Ecological Technology)
- Recycled glass generates 20% less air pollution and 50% less water pollution (NASA)
- Recycled aluminum reduces pollution by 95% (Reynolds Metal Co.)

There are three parts to the recycling process, each one essential to making the system work: collection, manufacturing and buying. These three components are represented by the "chasing arrows" of the recycling logo. The top arrow represents the collection of recyclable materials (e.g. an aluminum can, a piece of white office paper, a plastic #2 milk jug) for processing. The second arrow (bottom right) represents the recyclables being processed into recycled products (e.g. a new aluminum can from an old aluminum can, notebook paper from white office paper, a park bench from recycled plastic milk jugs). The third arrow on the bottom left is the most important arrow. This one represents when the consumer actually buys a product with recycled content. This is the most important step as it closes the recycling loop. Without this last step, we are pretty much just sorting our garbage. The nation's composting and recycling rate is around 30% and could and should continue to rise.

The chasing arrow symbol used to show that a product or package may be recycled if there is a program available. On plastics, it is used along with a numbering system (1-7) to help designate plastic resins used in the product.

During the collection phase, materials are separated from the waste stream and prepared to become raw materials rather than sent to the landfill. Different cities and municipalities have different systems for sorting and collecting materials that can be recycled including curbside collection or recycling stations where the materials can be taken.

Recovering the materials is just the first step. There must also be a market for it - companies that want the materials and are able to remanufacture them into consumer products. Sometimes these companies have to invest a significant amount of money in adapting their manufacturing processes to accommodate the use of recycled materials in their products.

In order to make recycling economically viable, there must be a market for recycled products. If people buy them, companies will be encouraged to make them, and the whole system works. Look for the recycled symbol when buying goods - close the loop to a better environment and cleaner air.

Information courtesy of www.americarecyclesday.org and Earth 911

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"I think your organization is doing an excellent job ensuring good air quality in Yolo County. We are proud to be able to conduct business in a manner which allows us to be profitable and protect the environment at the same time."

-- survey response

CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

This past spring, the District surveyed the businesses in our stationary source program to gauge customer satisfaction and to solicit input for the purpose of improving services.

This was the first survey that the District conducted and there was a 17% return rate.

An abundance of positive comments indicate that the District is meeting its goals of providing great customer service while protecting human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution.

When rating the customer relations and communications skills of the District staff, comments received included "Staff has always treated us respectfully, informatively and fairly" and "while maintaining a commitment to regulatory requirements, staff also strive to assist our business in our every-changing needs."

Suggestions for improvement included "improve permit issuance rates" and "more information on web-site or newsletter."

In all areas of the survey, the District received no scores of 1 (poor) or 2 (below satisfactory) with a majority of respondents giving the District the highest score of five (excellent) or four (above satisfactory).

While the District has programs under way to improve our operations based on the comments received, we will focus on three areas to improve our operations:

- 1) Evaluate and streamline the District annual throughput reporting procedures.
- 2) Develop additional standard permit evaluation packages to reduce the time it takes to issue permits.
- 3) Develop an enhanced program for locating un-permitted sources.

The District is conducting another customer service survey in our Agricultural Burn Program. Burn permit holders will receive the survey and be given the opportunity to comment on the program and service.

SPARE THE AIR SEASON

From May 1 through October 31, our region experienced 15 Spare the Air days with 42 days exceeding the 8 hour Federal standard. Within the Yolo-Solano Air District, there were only three days that exceeded the Federal ozone standard of 0.080 ppm or 90 on the Air Quality Index (AQI). As part of a region that is designated as a serious non-attainment area for the federal 8-hour ozone standard, it is essential that we do our part to continue to reduce emissions that lead to ground level ozone.

Activities and actions that individuals can do to help meet our attainment deadline of June 2013 include:

- Drive less - consider alternative means of transportation such as public transit, carpool or vanpool, walking or riding a bike.

- Refuel in the cooler hours and stop at the click - do not top off your tank.

- Postpone errands by not driving on a Spare The Air Day.

- Avoid consumer spray products - when buying consumer products, choose solids, sticks, and gels instead.

- Use an electric starter or chimney briquette starter instead of charcoal lighter fluid. If possible, replace your charcoal grill with a propane gas grill.

- Avoid gas-powered yard tools such as mowers, blowers, edgers and trimmers — switch to electric-powered tools.

- Recycle, reduce, reuse, recover, repair. recycle to reduce waste reduce when you shop, try to find products that have little or no packaging. what we cannot reduce we should try to reuse.

repair your old radio rather than buying a new one. use jars, tins, and plastic containers to store leftovers, bulk foods and household items. buy durable, good quality products that will last.

RULES UPDATE

Control Measure for In-Use Stationary Diesel Agricultural Engines

Stationary diesel engines can be found throughout California supporting farmers and ranchers with their agricultural operations. These engines provide power for irrigation pumps, wind machines, and electricity generators, among other important functions necessary for a prosperous California agricultural industry. However, diesel engines emit air pollutants that cause adverse health effects to humans. In recent years, the pollutant of primary concern has been diesel particulate matter (PM). The California Air Resources Board (ARB) identified diesel PM as a toxic air contaminant (TAC) in 1998. Exposure to diesel PM may result in both cancer and non-cancer health effects. Non-cancer health effects may include eye and lung irritation, allergic reactions in the lungs, asthma exacerbation, blood toxicity, immune system dysfunction, and developmental disorders. ARB estimates that there are 9,000 to 11,000 stationary diesel engines currently operating in California for agricultural purposes - with the majority located in the Central Valley. Another ARB estimate places diesel PM emissions from stationary irrigation pump engines, alone, at 570 tons annually.

To combat the harmful effects of diesel PM emissions, the ARB adopted an Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) for stationary compression ignition engines in 2005 (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/regact/statde/statde.htm>). The ATCM established stringent requirements for new stationary diesel engines, including engines used for agricultural operations. Currently, the ARB is proposing to amend the ATCM to add PM emission limits and other requirements for in-use (existing) agricultural engines.

Public workshops held by ARB staff earlier this year suggest that the amendments to the ATCM would affect in-use agricultural engines greater than 50 horsepower. The proposed PM emission limitations would require existing uncontrolled (primarily pre-1996) engines to meet or exceed Tier 3 or

Tier 4 new Off-Road Compression Ignition Engine Certification Standards for PM by the end of 2010 or 2011 (for engines less than 750 BHP), and the end of 2014 (for engines equal to or greater than 750 BHP). In addition, existing Tier 1 and Tier 2 engines would be required to meet or exceed Tier 4 certification standards for PM by the end of 2014 or 2015, or 12 years after initial installation (whichever is later). ARB staff is considering more stringent PM emission limits for in-use agricultural engines located near a neighboring residence or sensitive receptor. Along with the proposed PM requirements, ARB staff is proposing emission limitations on other air pollutants, such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) - both of which contribute to ground-level ozone formation. The proposed amendments will also include administrative requirements, such as record-keeping and reporting and potentially a registration process.

The proposed amendments to the ATCM may mean that many of the existing agricultural engines operating today will be required to be replaced or retrofitted within the next decade. However, ARB has established incentive funding that can be used to help California farmers and ranchers meet the proposed amendments. Through local air districts, those looking to replace older agricultural engines may be eligible for Carl Moyer Program funding. In addition, California electricity providers Pacific Gas & Electric and Southern California Edison may be able to provide special electricity rates to those switching from engines to electric motors.

The proposed amendments to the ATCM are in the ARB rule-making process and Yolo-Solano AQMD staff is following any new developments closely. The general public is invited to participate in the rule-making process and can access more information regarding the current ATCM and proposed amendments at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/ag/inuseag.htm>.

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As a public health agency, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's role is to protect human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution.

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Board meetings are held at 9 a.m. the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Y-S AQMD office. The public is welcome to attend. For a current agenda go to www.ysaqmd.org or for more information call (530) 757-3650.

Mat Ehrhardt, P.E.
Executive Director/
Air Pollution Control Officer

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STATS
04/01-06/30/06

ATC Applications Received	52	Complaints Investigated	31
ATC Applications Processed	54	Inspections Performed	196
PTO Applications Received	56	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	52
PTO Applications Processed	67	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	20

Since September 1, 2006, all diesel fuel sold in California retail outlets must be ultra low sulfur diesel. This fuel allows for the use of cleaner technology diesel engines and may also make it possible for some diesel-powered vehicles to meet the same emission standards as gas-powered vehicles.