

UPDATES

DON'T LIGHT TONIGHT

Woodsmoke from fireplaces and woodstoves can cause significant air quality problems in the Sacramento Valley during the cold winter months. With that in mind the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District conducts a voluntary "Don't Light Tonight" program within the District's boundaries from November 1 through March 31. The District asks residents not to use their woodstoves and fireplaces on evenings when air pollution, especially small particles, approach unhealthful levels.

Concentrations of particulate matter reach their highest levels in winter because low-lying air inversions trap pollutants near the ground in the pocket of air we breathe. As night falls, ground-level air cools and cold air slides down into the valley areas, hugging the valley floors. When there is little or no wind, the warm air layer above acts as a lid on top of the cold air. As a result, wood smoke and other air pollutants can be trapped close to the ground - under a ceiling sometimes as low as 50 feet. These cold weather conditions, coupled with the increased use of fireplaces and woodstoves, can create pollution levels that can lead not only to poor air quality but also to health problems for many residents.

On days that are declared "Don't Light Tonight" the District is advising residents not to use their woodstoves and fireplaces. Residents may call the District's agricultural burn line at (530) 757-3660 or toll free (800) 246-3660 to obtain the daily burn status after 10 a.m. each day. The air quality index (AQI) is posted on the District's homepage at www.ysaqmd.org.

October 10, 2007 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

Leaf Blower Exchange
October 16 -19
Vacaville, Dixon, Davis, Woodland

November 14, 2007 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

December 12, 2007 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

Public Workshop
Rule 2.31 Solvents
TBD

Sept - Dec 31, 2007
Woodstove Changeout Program
Call for details or visit
www.ysaqmd.org

November 1, 2007
PM 2.5 season and Don't Light
Tonight begins.

CALENDAR



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 2007

"Residential wood burning in the U.S. emits 420,000 tons of fine particle pollution (PM 2.5) each year. Of that amount woodstoves contribute 80% or 336,000 tons of PM 2.5 per year. Changing out one older woodstove is equivalent to taking five old diesel buses off the road."

Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
1947 Galileo Court #103
Davis, CA 95618
530-757-3650
800-287-3650
www.ysaqmd.org

TIME FOR CHANGE

Colder months are almost here which means that you may be looking for ways to heat your home. If you have a space-heating appliance such as an older wood burning stove or insert this may be a good time to change out to a cleaner more efficient model.

To reduce the amount of particulate matter pollution from wood-burning appliances, the District is offering a \$250 incentive in the form of a rebate to encourage homeowners to voluntarily replace their old appliances with cleaner EPA Phase II-certified wood burning stoves or inserts. Gas or pellet burning stoves or inserts also qualify. EPA-certified appliances are designed to drastically reduce the amount of particulate matter emitted into the air by causing wood to burn much more efficiently. The new appliances will:

- Pollute 70% less PM 2.5 outdoors
- increase energy efficiency
- use less fuel which saves money
- cut creosote build up in chimneys, reducing fire risk
- require less work

How do I know if my stove is certified? If your woodstove was manufactured before July 1, 1992 it is not EPA Phase II-certified. A wood stove must have an identification plate on or attached to its body which states the name, brand and serial number and date of manufacture. If it does not have this I.D. plate then it is not certified, even if it is brand new. New EPA certified wood stoves can be identified by a temporary paper label attached to the front of the stove and a permanent metal label affixed to the back or side of the stove.



What makes a wood stove efficient? Thermal mass and the ability to re-burn "smoke" are the two key factors. Thermal mass refers to a stove's ability to absorb, store and later release heat, resulting in less heat being lost to the outside. Secondary combustion tubes or catalytic converters ignite the leftover gaseous fuel (smoke) to create higher efficiencies. The amount of air introduced to the primary fire also effects whether a stove has a 'low burn.'

Why is smoke a health concern? Particulate matter can be produced as smoke or soot by the incomplete combustion of fuel when wood burning appliances are operated. Because particulate matter consists of very fine particles, smaller in diameter than a human hair, they can be breathed deep into the lungs and cause serious health problems. These health problems include decreased lung function, aggravation of asthma, irregular heartbeats, and premature death in people with heart or lung disease.

If you are interested in replacing a pre EPA wood burning appliance, please contact District staff member Jim Antone at 530-757-3653 or via email at janotone@ysaqmd.org. Applications are also available on the District's website at www.ysaqmd.org.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE.

Throughputs.....	page 2
Leaf Blower Exchange.....	page 2
Rules Update.....	page 3
PERP.....	page 3
Don't Light Tonight.....	page 4

“Permit Holders who do not send in Throughput Report forms by the March 31 deadline receive a Notice to Comply and will have fourteen days from the date of receipt to submit the report before a penalty will be assessed.”

“Businesses and agencies are encouraged to take advantage of the Leaf Blower Incentive Program to help reduce emission levels by using the cleanest technology currently available. The new blower is a gas-powered, non-traditional four-stroke model that also has one of the lowest noise ratings – 65 decibels or about 14% quieter than the average two-stroke backpack leaf blower.”

THROUGHPUT REPORTS

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) gathers air pollution data for the state and based on this data, compiles a statewide emissions inventory used to evaluate air quality and set ambient air quality standards. The air pollution data used comes from a variety of sources. These sources include: 1) mobile sources such as automobiles and construction equipment; 2) stationary sources such as large industrial facilities and gasoline dispensing facilities; 3) areawide sources such as consumer products and farming operations; and 4) natural sources such as wildfires and wind blown dust.

The District has the primary responsibility for providing the stationary source emissions data to the ARB. To assist in our efforts to provide an accurate stationary source emissions inventory, the District requires every permit holder to submit a calendar year **Throughput/Production Report** (Throughput Report) for each permit no later than March 31 of the following calendar year. These Throughput Reports are essential to documenting the actual process material usage which is then used to quantify the facility’s actual emissions.

The District has historically sent a Throughput Report form with a cover letter to each facility at the end of the year with instructions to return the completed form to the District

by March 31 of the following year. In the past, some facilities did not return the form by the deadline. In December 2006, the District sent an Advisory to all of our permitted facilities reminding permit holders of the guidelines for filing the Throughput Report as well as informing them of the changes in the form and procedures associated with its submittal. The District is sending another Advisory which will contain much of the same information but has been updated based on lessons learned from last year’s procedure changes.

Both Advisories inform Permit Holders of the enforcement action which is taken when forms are not submitted as required. Specifically, Permit Holders who do not send in Throughput Report forms by the March 31 deadline receive a Notice to Comply and will have fourteen days from the date of receipt to submit the report. For reports not submitted within the fourteen day time frame, the District will issue a Notice of Violation and penalties will be assessed.

Permit Holders will receive Throughput Report forms via mail the first week of January. These forms may also be downloaded via the internet from our website at www.ysaqmd.org. The District urges Permit Holders with any questions on these Throughput Report forms to contact Cassandra Kirkbride at 530-757-3664.

LEAF BLOWER EXCHANGE



The District is sponsoring an incentive program to exchange polluting backpack leaf blowers with a STIHL BR 500 backpack style blower. This low-polluting, low-noise model is nearly five times cleaner than the California Air Resources Board’s (ARB) most stringent standard for other blowers on the market.

The program is open to professional gardeners and landscapers who work in the air district’s jurisdiction and to businesses and agencies who are located

in the areas served by the district. Blowers may be reserved beginning Oct 1, 8 am - 5 pm by calling (559) 651-5616. Reservations are on a first-come, first-serve basis and supply is limited. The exchange takes place on Oct 16 in Vacaville, Oct 17 in Dixon, Oct 18 in Woodland and Oct 19 in Davis.

This model retails for \$470 and will be sold for \$299.95 with an exchange of an older blower. Training in the proper use of the blowers to minimize suspension of dust is available. The old blowers will be scrapped and the metal recycled.

Contact the District at (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650 for more information.

STATS
07/01-09/30/07

ATC Applications Received	49	Complaints Investigated	12
ATC Applications Processed	65	Inspections Performed	292
PTO Applications Received	32	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	32
PTO Applications Processed	51	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	9

PERP



If you own or operate a portable engine 50 horsepower or greater or an equipment unit (excluding those used for agricultural service), within the District’s jurisdiction, you must have a district permit or register the engine in the Statewide Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP) administered by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

Time is running out for owners and operators of unregistered or non-permitted portable engines and equipment. For a limited time, owners and operators of older engines, certified to a less stringent emission standard (Tier 1 and 2), may register in PERP. The engines must have resided in California between March 4, 2004, and October 1, 2006. Non-certified engines, referred to as Tier 0 engines, that do not meet any emission standards are no longer eligible to register in PERP. However a Regional Compliance Agreement (RCA) among the air districts in the Sacramento region allows operation of these engines until January 1, 2010. All Tier 0 engines must be removed from service in California by that date as they will no longer be able to legally operate in California and owners and operators will be severely fined.

Portable equipment, which is subject to air district regulation, includes non-road internal combustion engines (over 50 hp) and engine-associated equipment units which emit into the air. They are designed to be carried or moved from one location to another. On-road engines (providing propulsion) in vehicles are not subject to this regulation. If a vehicle has a second engine performing the function of the vehicle, the second engine may be subject to regulation. Engines used in agricultural service are not subject to this regulation.

The health benefits of implementing the Air Toxics Control Measure (ATCM) are substantial. Estimates of the cumulative emissions reductions indicate that implementation will result in fewer premature deaths, fewer hospital admissions due to respiratory causes and cardiovascular causes and fewer cases of asthma-related and other lower respiratory symptoms. For more information contact the District at (530) 757-3650 or visit www.ysaqmd.org.

RULE 2.31 - SOLVENTS

The District currently has multiple rules that establish standards for emissions from the use of solvents from a wide variety of sources, including surface preparation, cleanup, and manufacturing. The most common format for these standards is to limit the Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) content of the solvents themselves and is enforced through the review of Material Data Safety Sheets (MSDS).

Some of these standards were adopted as far back as the 1970s, and many have not been updated since the mid 1990s, and as such the existing limits range anywhere from 72 grams per liter (g/l) up to 1070 g/l. Over the past 10 years, technology has improved such that water based solvents in the range of 25 to 50 g/l are available to perform nearly all of the same job functions. These changes have applicability to solvents used in parts washers, gun cleaners, degreasers as well as solvents used with hand application methods such as spray and wipe.

The District is preparing to lower VOC limits for most solvent cleaning operations using a two tier approach. Staff is proposing to lower the limits for general categories to 50 grams per liter by 2009, and 25 grams per liter by 2011. Based on a review of our current rules as well as other District’s rules, there will be some higher limits for certain industries (e.g. medical/ pharmaceutical, electrical, some printing) where it has been shown that the aqueous based solutions that can meet the 50 and 25 g/l standards are not feasible.

Affected rules include: Rule 2.13 Organic Solvents, Rule 2.24 Solvent Cleaning (Degreasing), Rule 2.25 Metal Parts and Products Coating, Rule 2.26 Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating, Rule 2.29 Graphic Arts and Printing, Rule 2.30 Polyester Resin, Rule 2.31 Surface Preparation and Clean Up, Rule 2.33 Adhesive, Rule 2.35 Pharmaceutical Manufacturing, and Rule 2.39 Wood Products Coating.

Since this rule making effort affects many source categories, the District will hold a series of public workshops by the end of the year to discuss the proposed amendments. The District is proposing to hold these separate workshops for the source categories in order to address specific effects of the rule changes. All notices and reports will be posted on the District’s web page. For more information call Nancy Fletcher at 530-757-3656.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 YSAQMD office. The public is welcome to attend. For a current agenda go to www.ysaqmd.org or for more information call (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650.

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

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