



YCTD intern Philip Ramos demonstrates how to load bicycles onto the new triple bike bus rack.

Thanks to a Clean Air Funds grant from the air district, Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD) increased bicycle capacity on all YOLOBUSES by replacing the 2-bike racks with a 3-bike rack. With increased gas prices and more residents looking at alternative transportation options, the timing couldn't have been better.

YOLOBUS' Bikes on Buses program allows you and your bicycle to travel on any YOLOBUS for no extra charge. Forty-seven of the buses are equipped with these special racks so most bikes can be secured to the front of the bus. For

those that are new to multi-mode travel (bicycle-transit), YCTD provides a brochure with instructions on how to load and unload your bike as well as safety tips. So wherever the bus goes, you and your bike can go too! For more information or to obtain a brochure or bus schedule, contact YCTD at (530) 666-5842 or www.yolobus.com

CALENDAR

September 15 - December 31, 2008 Woodstove Changeout Program: Receive a \$250 incentive when you changeout a non-certified woodstove or woodburning insert with a new US EPA certified wood, gas or pellet stove or insert.

October 8, 2008 Cancelled
YSAQMD Board of Directors

October 15, 2008 1:30 PM
Public Workshop
Rule 2.26 - Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations

"Don't Light Tonight" Season Begins November 1.

November 12, 2008 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors

December 10, 2008 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors

TRUCKERS SAVE FUEL AND REDUCE POLLUTION



Cascade Sierra Solutions, a non-profit organization, has opened a showroom in Natomas for the trucking community. The new center serves as an invaluable resource for operators to obtain information regarding state regulations, view the latest clean air and efficiency-improving technologies, and learn about the best overall operating practices.

The goal of the organization is to retrofit or replace 30,000 heavy duty trucks by 2013 and save 1 billion gallons of diesel over the life of those trucks. Cascade Sierra Solutions received a \$1.13 million EPA grant to help provide below-market interest rate loans to truckers, allowing them to install idle reduction technologies on more than 1,700 trucks. Cascade Sierra Solutions will use the grant to leverage an additional \$17.1 million to help the non-profit lower thousands of truckers' fuel costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and diesel pollution.

The Center is located in the 49'er Travel Center at 2828 El Centro Road in Sacramento. The hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Phone is 866-345-3390 Toll Free or 916-564-6611.



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Davis, CA 95618
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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

SIGN UP FOR ENVIROFLASH - IT'S FREE AND EASY

What is EnviroFlash?

EnviroFlash is a system that sends e-mails or messages to your cell phone about the daily air quality forecast. The message is the same air quality information that the local radio or television stations provide, plus suggested safety measures when levels are unhealthy. This service is provided by the air district and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



How does EnviroFlash work?

Air quality monitors located all over the United States take in information that is used to calculate the current Air Quality Index value. State and local environmental agencies then issue air quality forecasts based on measured air quality and weather information. The forecast is then provided to local radio and television stations, posted online and sent out through EnviroFlash.

Why is EnviroFlash important?

Exposure to high levels of air pollution can aggravate heart disease, asthma and other respiratory diseases. By being aware of the air quality levels, you can take precautions to protect yourself and your family.

Within the Yolo-Solano AQMD jurisdiction, monitors in Davis, Woodland and Vacaville report data that determines air quality readings for ozone and particle pollution (PM).

For additional information or to sign up, visit: www.ysaqmd.org and go to Enviroflash.

“
AQI forecasts can help you protect your health. When the forecast calls for unhealthy levels of air pollution, protect your health by reducing your exposure -- especially if you are in a sensitive group.

”



REDUCING YOUR EXPOSURE TO PARTICULATE POLLUTANTS

Particulate pollutants are found both indoors and outdoors. They include very small (often invisible) particles and aerosols from combustion sources such as motor vehicle exhaust, industrial processes, cigarette smoke, cooking, and woodburning activities; biological components such as pollen and mold spores, and dust mite and cockroach allergens; fine fibers such as asbestos; and soil particles. Depending on their size and composition, particulate pollutants deposit in different areas of the lungs and mucous membranes and can cause a variety of harmful health effects. These effects include cough, nasal irritation, lung infection, allergy symptoms, asthma, chronic lung conditions, cancer, and premature death.

There are programs to reduce emissions from sources such as motor vehicles and industrial plants but individuals can take action to reduce your and your family's exposures to particulate pollutants. You can:

- Spend less time traveling in motor vehicles. Use alternative transportation or carpool.
- Keep your car properly tuned and maintained, and avoid long warm-ups.
- Use the "Cleaner Cars Buyers Guide" when purchasing your next vehicle.
- Reduce smoke and combustion products in your home. Never use hibachis, charcoal grills, or unvented space heaters indoors.
- Have gas heaters and stoves checked annually by a professional to assure that they are functioning properly and vented to the outdoors. Use exhaust fans that vent to the outdoors when cooking.

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DON'T LIGHT TONIGHT

“Don't Light Tonight” is a voluntary program during the fall and winter in which the District asks residents not to use their woodstoves and fireplaces when air pollution is forecasted to reach unhealthy levels. The program is aimed at keeping pollution levels of particulate matter below the health-based standards.

Concentrations of particulate matter can reach high levels due to low-lying air inversions. These inversions trap pollutants close to ground level affecting the air we breathe. These cold weather conditions, coupled with the increased use of fireplaces and woodstoves, can create pollution levels that lead not only to poor air quality but also to health problems for many residents.

Protecting the Public Health

The health effects of particulate matter are of special concern to the District. Because of its size, PM2.5 can pass through the body's protective filters and enter deep into the lungs, increasing the risk of bronchial disease and lung damage. Wood smoke also contains toxic, carcinogenic substances such as benzene, formaldehyde and polycyclic organic matter.

How the Program Works

“Don't Light Tonight” is announced on the burn information telephone line and through the local media. Call the District's agricultural burn line after 11 a.m. each day at (530) 757-3660 or toll free (800) 246-3660 to obtain the daily burn status.

This season the District is adding an additional form of notification. For those who sign up at our website www.ysaqmd.org, you will receive notification of a “Don't Light Tonight” through your email or cell phone. On days that are declared “Don't Light Tonight,” the District is advising residents not to use their woodstoves and fireplaces.

The District will call a “Don't Light Tonight” when PM 2.5 is forecasted to be 35 micrograms per cubic meter or higher. The District receives a 5-day forecast in order to provide advance notification to residents.

CLEAN AIR INCENTIVES



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 \$250 incentive will reduce the overall purchase cost of the new appliance. The new appliances will:

- pollute 70% less PM 2.5 outdoors
- increase energy efficiency
- use less fuel and 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, 1990 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 stove 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. EPA exempt appliances are not permitted to be installed in our air district.

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.

For more information contact District staff member Jim Antone at 530-757-3653 or via email at jantone@ysaqmd.org. Applications are also available on the District's website at www.ysaqmd.org.

CLEAN AIR FUNDS

Beginning in mid-January 2009, applications will be available for Clean Air Fund (CAF) grants. The CAF Program is designed to reduce emissions from motor vehicles by supporting cleaner vehicle technologies, alternative modes of transportation, and educating the public about air pollution. The program offers incentive funding for mobile sources of air pollution that are not subject to district regulation or other state or federal air pollution laws. Any individual, business, public agency, or non-profit organization located in or operating within the boundaries of the District is eligible to apply. Funding is awarded on a competitive basis.

For more information contact the District at (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650.

STATS: July 1, 2008 - September 30, 2008

ATC Applications Received	110	Complaints Investigated	12
ATC Applications Processed	51	Inspections Performed	349
PTO Applications Received	41	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	15
PTO Applications Processed	30	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	8

NEW STANDARDS

From lawn mowers and weed trimmers, to personal watercraft and speedboats, gas-powered engines will soon contribute to healthier and cleaner air for Americans. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set strict new standards for gas-powered lawn equipment and marine engines, enhancing public health by substantially reducing the amount of gas fumes, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons and smog-forming pollutants emitted from a wide range of engines. The regulations will take effect in 2010 for gas-powered personal watercraft and inboard and outboard engines and in 2011 for lawn and garden equipment of 25 horsepower or less.

When fully implemented, the rule will yield annual emission reductions of 600,000 tons of hydrocarbons, 130,000 tons of nitrogen oxide (NOx), 5,500 tons of direct particulate matter, and 1.5 million tons of carbon monoxide (CO). EPA expects the new standards to save approximately 190 million gallons of gasoline each year.

To meet the new exhaust emission standards, manufacturers will likely employ catalytic converters for the first time in many small watercraft and lawn and garden equipment. After rigorous analysis and work with stakeholders, EPA determined this strategy was feasible and safe. This regulation also includes the first national standards for boats powered by stern-drive or inboard engines, and carbon monoxide standards for gasoline-powered engines used in recreational watercraft.

Non-road gasoline-powered engines, such as those used in lawn and garden equipment, will see an additional 35 percent reduction in smog-forming hydrocarbon (HC) and NOx emissions. The updated engines will also achieve a 45 percent reduction in fuel evaporative emissions.

Recreational watercraft powered by gasoline engines will incur a 70 percent reduction in HC and NOx emissions, a 20 percent reduction in CO and a 70 percent reduction in fuel evaporative emissions.

These standards will help fight smog in our neighborhoods and waterways while continuing to improve the environmental landscape.

RULES UPDATE

PROPOSED RULE FOR BIOMASS POWER PLANTS

The District is currently developing a new rule that would affect facilities that produce power by means of combusting biomass (tree trimmings, fruit pits, rice straw, etc.). The rule development is fulfilling a commitment made by the District in the Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) State Implementation Plan (SIP) document in September 2006. The District currently has one permitted source that would be subject to the rule. The proposed rule will limit criteria pollutant emissions through set performance standards and/or control requirements.

NITRIC ACID PRODUCTION PLANT RULE DEVELOPMENT

The District is currently in the process of developing a prohibitory rule for nitric acid production facilities. There is currently one such facility operating within the District. This rule development work will help fulfill the District's Reasonably Available Control Technology (RACT) commitment contained in the proposed amendments to the State Implementation Plan (SIP). According to the EPA, the majority of domestic nitric acid plants are located in and around agricultural regions. This is because about 70% of the total amount of nitric acid produced in the United States is used in the production of ammonium nitrate - a large component of agricultural fertilizers. The proposed rule will limit criteria pollutant emissions through set performance standards and/or control requirements.

A public workshop is scheduled for October 15 for **Rule 2.26 - Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations**.

RULE DEVELOPMENT FOR 2009

The District is currently in the planning stage for several rule revisions that may be presented before the Board as early as January of 2009. The rule revisions will include **Rule 2.39 - Wood Products Coating Operations**, **Rule 2.33 - Adhesive Operations**, and **Rule 2.29 - Graphic Arts Printing Operations**. All of the planned rules will further limit volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from each applicable process.

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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 YSAQMD office located at 1947 Galileo Court, Suite 103, Davis. The public is welcome to attend. For a current agenda go to www.ysaqmd.org or call (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650.

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