

## UPDATES

### May is Million Mile Month



**May is Bike Commute Month.** Join in the challenge that regionally, we can bike one million miles in one month. Whether it is for recreation, errands or commuting, all bike miles count toward the challenge and individuals and businesses are encouraged to participate.

It is easy to participate - just register and log your miles at [www.bikecommutemonth.com](http://www.bikecommutemonth.com). Look for new events and great prizes! **Bicycle Friendly Awards** will be presented on both local and regional levels. Winners will first be selected on a local level, then advanced to the regional level for consideration. Do you know someone who qualifies for: **Bike Friendly Employer, Bike Advocate of the Year** or **Cyclist of the Year**? *Deadline for entries is Friday, May 11.*

Bike Commute Month brings visibility to bicycling and makes people think about the need for bicycling safety. Logging miles documents the bicycling in the region, and we use that documentation to support funding requests for projects that make bicycling safer.

In addition to Bike Commute Month, you can track the miles you bicycle all year by logging them in **Commuter Club**. To register in Commuter Club, go to [www.sacregioncommuterclub.org/](http://www.sacregioncommuterclub.org/) and then to *Register Now*. Once you're a member, click on My Commute Diary in the left-side menu. You can log your recreational, errand and commute cycling miles at the bottom.

However you commute, carpool, transit, drive-alone, bicycle, if you log your commute trips in the commute diary you will be eligible to win prizes every week while helping to keep the air cleaner.

CALENDAR

SACOG Public Workshop  
Local Transportation Issues  
April 6 - West Sacramento  
April 12 - Davis  
[www.sacog.org/transit/comments.cfm](http://www.sacog.org/transit/comments.cfm)

April 11, 2007 **Cancelled**  
YSAQMD Board of Directors  
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

Spare the Air season begins  
May 1. Sign up for Air Alert at  
[www.sparetheair.com](http://www.sparetheair.com)

May 1 - 31, 2007  
Million Mile Month  
[www.bikecommutemonth.com](http://www.bikecommutemonth.com)

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

May 24, 2007  
Clean Air Awards Luncheon  
[www.sacbreathe.org](http://www.sacbreathe.org)

June 13, 2007 **9:00 AM**  
YSAQMD 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](http://www.ysaqmd.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



# AIR AWARE

A Publication of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

## Spring 2007

*The Portable Engine  
Registration Program  
is ongoing.*

*Deadlines and  
registration fees vary  
according to engine  
model year and  
horsepower.*

*Businesses that enroll  
early during the open  
window, will incur  
lower fees.*

*ARB is encouraging  
the public to call  
(916) 323-1103  
for more specific  
information.*

Yolo-Solano Air Quality  
Management District  
1947 Galileo Court #103  
Davis, CA 95618  
530-757-3650  
800-287-3650  
[www.ysaqmd.org](http://www.ysaqmd.org)

## ATTENTION: Owners of Portable Equipment

**T**he Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP) is a voluntary state wide program to register portable equipment such as air compressors, generators, concrete pumps, tub grinders, wood chippers, water pumps, drill rigs, pile drivers, rock drills, abrasive blasters, aggregate screening and crushing plants, concrete batch plants, and welders. Portable equipment registered in PERP may operate throughout the state without obtaining permits from any of California's 35 air quality management or air pollution control districts.

If you own or operate any of the above listed portable equipment including any engine 50 horsepower or greater, you must have a permit or registration to legally operate in California. The District is responsible for enforcing this requirement. Owners and operators of unregistered or unpermitted engines will be cited and fined when caught. To avoid penalties, owners and operators should not delay registering their equipment.

For a limited time, owners and operators of older, dirtier certified engines may register in

PERP. The portable equipment must have resided in California between March 1, 2004 and October 1, 2006. This opportunity to register ends on December 31, 2009. Uncertified engines (Tier 0) are not eligible to register in PERP. However, at the discretion of the air pollution control officer, the district may permit or register Tier 0 engines.

Early applicants pay lower registration fees. PERP registration fees depend on whether or not your engine meets the current tier standard. Tables to determine engine tier standards and registration fees are available at the website listed below. Application forms and instructions for PERP registration are also available.

PERP registrations are valid for three years and include an identification plate that allows air district inspectors to easily determine from a distance that the equipment is registered.

For more information in both English and Spanish, visit: [www.arb.ca.gov/engine](http://www.arb.ca.gov/engine)

## AGRICULTURAL ENGINE UPDATE

**I**n the Fall 2006 issue of Air Aware, we updated you on the status of the Air Toxics Control Measure (ATCM) for Stationary Compression Ignition Engines. In November 2006, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) adopted the amendments to the regulation. In March of this year, the Yolo-Solano AQMD Board of Directors approved the Agricultural Engine Registration Development Plan for the program within our district. The plan is non-regulatory and is intended to outline how the state-mandated registration program will be developed. During the next year, we will work with the Agricultural Permitting Advisory Committee (APAC) to develop a program that will cover administrative factors and general policy factors. Following the development of a conceptual outline, we will draft a rule and

proceed with the public process which includes workshops and a Board hearing. It is estimated that the initial implementation will begin in September 2007 and be final by March 1, 2008. If you are interested in serving on the APAC, contact Paul Hensleigh at (530) 757-3650 or email [phensleigh@ysaqmd.org](mailto:phensleigh@ysaqmd.org).

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## THINGS TO DO TO SPARE THE AIR

- Conserve electricity and set your air conditioner at a higher temperature.
- Choose a cleaner commute—share a ride to work or use public transportation. Bicycle or walk to errands when possible.
- Refuel cars and trucks after dusk.
- Combine errands and reduce trips.
- Limit engine idling.
- Use household, workshop, and garden chemicals in ways that keep evaporation to a minimum, or try to delay using them when poor air quality is forecast.
- On a Spare the Air day, defer use of gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment.

## TIPS FOR DAYS WHEN PARTICLE POLLUTION (PM) IS EXPECTED TO BE HIGH:

- Reduce the number of trips you take in your car.
- Reduce or eliminate fireplace and wood stove use.
- Avoid using gas-powered lawn and garden equipment.
- Avoid burning leaves and other materials.

## EXCEPTIONAL EVENTS

**T**HE Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently finalized a rule to establish criteria and procedures for use in determining if air quality monitoring data has been influenced by exceptional events such as unplanned fires or destructive storms. Exceptional events are unusual or naturally occurring events that can affect air quality but are not reasonably controllable using techniques local air agencies may implement in order to attain and maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

This rule establishes the procedures and criteria that will be used to identify, evaluate, interpret and use monitored air quality data for comparison to the NAAQS in situations where state, local, and tribal air quality agencies request special treatment because the data has been affected by an exceptional event. This final rule:

- ensures that air quality measurements are properly evaluated and characterized with regard to their causes,
- identifies reasonable actions that should be taken to address the air quality and public health impacts caused by these types of events,
- and ensures that the use of air quality data, whether afforded special treatment or not, is subject to full public disclosure and review.

## NEW REGULATION FOR OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

**T**HE Air Resources Board (ARB) is developing a new regulation that would reduce emissions from in-use off-road vehicles. The regulation would affect any owner or operator of a diesel-fueled off-road vehicle of at least 25 horsepower that is not used for purposes of recreation or husbandry such as construction, mining and industrial operations. Off-road diesel fleets would be required to meet certain fleet averages for particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen oxides (NOx). The emission targets may be met through the retrofit, repower, or replacement of fleet vehicles. The proposed timelines for meeting these fleet averages will depend on the size of

## SPARE THE AIR

**M**AY 1 begins the ozone season and residents and businesses are encouraged to minimize activities that contribute to ground-level ozone. It is formed when volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) react with the sun's ultraviolet rays. The primary source of VOCs and NOx in our region is mobile sources, including cars, trucks, buses, construction equipment and agricultural equipment.

Ground-level ozone reaches its highest level during the afternoon and early evening hours. High levels occur most often during the summer months. It is a strong irritant that can cause constriction of the airways, forcing the respiratory system to work harder in order to provide oxygen. It can also cause other health problems:

- Aggravate respiratory diseases such as emphysema, bronchitis and asthma
- Damage deep portions of the lungs, even after symptoms such as coughing or a sore throat disappear
- Wheezing, chest pain, dry throat, headache or nausea
- Reduced resistance to infection
- Increased fatigue
- Weakened athletic performance

To stay informed of daily air quality, sign up for the free service "Air Alert" at [www.sparetheair.com](http://www.sparetheair.com)

the fleet. In the current draft rule language, large and medium fleets will be required to meet the averages by 2009 and 2010, respectively. Small fleets will have until 2012 to comply with the fleet average requirement. The proposed rule requires that fleet owners or operators submit an equipment inventory for their fleet to ARB in spring/summer 2008.

The proposed rule is scheduled to be considered by the ARB Board this May. The proposed regulatory language and additional information regarding the rule, can be accessed at: <http://arb.ca.gov/msprog/ordiesel/ordiesel.htm>

## PERC PHASE OUT

**T**HE California Air Resources Board (ARB) adopted regulatory amendments that protect air quality by gradually phasing out the use of a chemical common in dry cleaning. By 2023, dry cleaners will replace perchloroethylene, or perc, a solvent used in dry cleaning, with safer alternatives already available on the market. Perc is listed by the ARB as a toxic air contaminant (TAC); which is California's designation for chemicals that have no exposure level which can be considered safe.

Through a phased implementation these amendments will lead the industry to switch to safer technologies. Beginning January 1, 2008 perc-using machines will not be allowed to be installed in California. By July 1, 2010, existing perc machines in co-residential facilities (facilities that share a wall with, or are located in the same building, as a residence), will be removed from service. Perc machines that have been converted to use a primary emission control device or are 15 years or older must also be removed from service by July 1, 2010. The remaining perc machines must be removed from service once they become 15 years old. Fifteen years allows an owner to recoup the cost of buying the existing machine. Finally, the use of perc for dry cleaning operations will be completely banned by January 1, 2023. This phase-out program along with economic incentives will allow the industry to gradually convert to more environmentally sound processes.

The amendments also address manufacturers and distributors of perc. Manufacturers that sell perc for dry cleaning use in California must keep monthly sales records. In addition, they are required to report to ARB their distributors' contact information and any subsequent changes to that information.

Any solvent distributor that sells perc or recycled perc to California dry cleaning facilities or to another perc distributor is required to report annually to the ARB the amount of perc sold in California. And, if applicable, they must report the contact information of their distributors and subsequent changes to that information.

These actions safeguard the health of all Californians especially those living or working near dry cleaning establishments.

## RULE UPDATE

**T**HE District is preparing to lower Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) limits for most solvent cleaning operations to a new standard of 25 grams/liter. It is expected that this limit can be met through the use of aqueous or semi-aqueous technologies, exempt compounds, or development of new cleaning materials/technologies.

Reducing VOC emissions from solvent usage is a fundamental component of the District's ozone reduction strategy. Over time the District has developed a series of rules designed to regulate emissions of VOCs from sources using solvents, and from solvent waste generated during production, repair, maintenance, and general work areas:

- Rule 2.24 Solvent Cleaning Operations Degreasing
- Rule 2.25 Metal Parts and Products Coating Operations
- Rule 2.26 Motor Vehicle and Mobile Equipment Coating Operations
- Rule 2.29 Graphic Arts Printing Operations
- Rule 2.30 Polyester Resin Operations
- Rule 2.33 Adhesives Operations
- Rule 2.35 Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Operations
- Rule 2.39 Wood Products Coating Operations

The District is in the process of revising the solvent-cleaning requirements of these rules to lower emissions of VOCs. The rules require control of emissions from the entire process, including standards for the allowable VOC content for the solvent used, standards for equipment, and standards for work practices.

In addition, the District is proposing to restructure these rules, by moving the requirements for solvents used for surface preparation, clean-up, disposal and storage from the individual source category rules (listed above) to one rule (Rule 2.31 Surface Preparation and Cleanup) addressing general requirements for solvents used in any cleaning operation. District staff is also proposing to incorporate minor changes resulting in improvement to rule clarity, effectiveness, and consistency with other agencies rules.

For more information on these rules, contact Nancy Fletcher at (530) 757-3650 or [nfletcher@ysaqmd.org](mailto:nfletcher@ysaqmd.org).

Now Available  
**Self Inspection Handbook on Naturally-Occurring Asbestos.**  
 For a copy contact ARB at 916-327-7211

## 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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*Maor Pro-Tempore, Davis*

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**Mariko Yamada**  
*Supervisor District 4, Yolo County*

Board meetings are held at 9 a.m. the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the YSAQMD office. The public is welcome to attend. For a current agenda go to [www.ysaqmd.org](http://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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**Contributing writers:**

Nancy Fletcher  
 Matt Jones

**STATS**  
 01/01/03/31/07

ATC Applications Received	63	Complaints Investigated	6
ATC Applications Processed	43	Inspections Performed	348
PTO Applications Received	61	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	36
PTO Applications Processed	46	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	3