

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

May Celebrates Clean Air Month & More

- **Spare the Air season.** Sign up for **Enviroflash** to get air quality notifications including Spare the Air days. Go to <http://ysaqmd.enviroflash.org> for more information.
- **Bike Month** - Visit www.mayisbikemonth.com to find out how to participate in Million Mile Month and local bike events.
- **Calendar Contest** - For students, the District's annual calendar contest is held during May. Draw your idea of how to clean up the air and if your art is chosen, you can earn \$50 and your work will be on the 2010 Poster calendar. For more info go to: www.ysaqmd.org
- **Asthma Awareness Month** - Visit www.solanoasthma.org to find out how to reduce asthma triggers at home and at school.

CHANGE OUT SUCCESS

The District's **Woodstove Changeout Program** ended February 27 with all \$250 vouchers redeemed. Residents in Davis, Dixon, Esparto, Guinda, Vacaville, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland took advantage of the incentive and converted to either gas, pellet or a new EPA Phase II certified woodburning appliance. An estimated 1,285 pounds of PM10 per year will be reduced thanks to those participating in the program.

Nearly 1,300 gas mowers were traded in for zero emission electric lawn mowers through our **annual mower exchange** programs in March and April which will result in a reduction of ozone precursors and greenhouse gases.

CALENDAR

- April 7, 2009** 8:30 AM
Registration for Mower Exchange for Yolo and Solano County residents. 1-800-465-7894
- April 8, 2009** 9:30 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
- April 9, 2009** 1:00 PM
Public Workshop
Rule 3.22 Indemnification of District
- May 1 - May 31, 2009**
 - Clean Air Month
 - www.MayisBikeMonth.com
Log miles for the Million Mile Month.
 - **Calendar Contest**
K-12 students can enter to win \$50
- May 13, 2009** 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors
- June 10, 2009** 9:00 AM
YSAQMD Board of Directors

GDF's - Special Advisory

POLICY FOR SERVICE STATIONS THAT DO NOT MEET THE APRIL 1, 2009 PHASE II EVR DEADLINE

Enhanced Vapor Recovery (EVR) regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board in March 2000 required approximately 11,000 service stations state-wide (Gasoline Dispensing Facilities or GDFs) to upgrade equipment to reduce gasoline vapor emissions by April 1, 2009. The EVR Phase II systems will reduce gasoline vapor emissions that contribute to ozone formation to protect public health and meet California clean air attainment requirements. Some of these emissions are air toxics that can cause cancer. This deadline has passed and GDFs that are in non-compliance can expect either:

1. Stipulated Order of Abatement; or
2. Enforcement or Compliance Agreements

In order for a GDF to be eligible to operate temporarily under either of these scenarios, individual circumstances must be carefully evaluated. Visit www.evrhome.org/ for additional information on available EVR equipment, certified contractors, and other compliance assistance. Information for obtaining lease, loan or other financial assistance is available at www.evrhome.org/finance.htm or contact the District at (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650.



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Ag Burn Line
(530) 757-3660 (800) 246-3660
www.ysaqmd.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Air Aware *Spring 2009*

A Publication of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

FUGITIVE DUST



Most large and medium-sized construction projects that occur within the jurisdiction of the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District (District) are subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA requires that projects that may significantly impact the environment prepare an analysis that evaluates those impacts. When impacts are found to be significant, CEQA requires that the impacts be mitigated to the extent feasible. Air quality is one of the areas for which CEQA requires an analysis.

“ Fugitive dust, or dust not coming from a combustion source, accounts for about 90% of all primary PM10 emissions.

The District publishes guidance that can help developers prepare adequate CEQA air quality analyses for their construction projects. The document, called the “Handbook for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts” (Handbook), advises applicants on how to properly calculate the emissions from construction activities, as well as how to mitigate these emissions. Specifically, the Handbook provides instructions on how to calculate:

- Emissions from the use of heavy-duty construction equipment
- Emissions resulting from the application of architectural coatings
- Fugitive dust emissions.

While the Handbook recommends feasible mitigation measures for all of these emissions sources, the most effective measures are those that reduce fugitive dust. These measures not only reduce a large percentage of construction-related dust but they are in most cases inexpensive to implement. Because of their effectiveness and low cost, the District asks that some of these measures be implemented at all construction sites. This constitutes “best management practices” for control of fugitive dust. The District’s best management practices include:

- Water active construction sites twice daily or as needed.
- Water construction roads once every two hours, or water once daily and limit vehicle speeds.
- Apply stabilizers to all inactive soil piles or water piles daily.

Reducing fugitive dust from construction activity is important because the particulates present in fugitive dust can have severe health impacts. Also, the District has recently been designated as a “nonattainment area” for the federal standard for particulates 2.5 microns or less in diameter (PM2.5). In order for the District to make progress towards attaining the standard, control of PM2.5 from all sources will be necessary. Instituting best management practices for fugitive dust will help to ensure that this source category will be controlled to the extent feasible.

For more information on the District’s CEQA Handbook or the District’s best management practices for construction-related fugitive dust, contact Matt Jones, at (530) 757-3668.

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AG ENGINES

Per District Rule 11.3, all non-road engines rated greater than 50 horsepower and used in agricultural operations were to be registered with the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District by September 2, 2008. Engines that power vehicles, wind machines and mobile agricultural equipment are exempt from needing to register.

To date, over 80 individual farms and ranches have registered more than 400 qualifying engines. A new module has been added to the District's Permit Tracking System database. The module was specifically designed to store and process the registration data, generate inspection forms and produce a registration certificate tailored to each individual engine based upon the age, tier classification, and use. The Permit Tracking System is an integral part of the program, increasing the efficiency of the process thereby helping the District to keep costs down and our registration fees among the lowest in California. Additionally, the District is working on amending Rule 11.3 to include provisions for units qualifying as "Low Use" engines. The purpose of these provisions is to balance the economic impact of replacing an engine against the impact the engine has on the environment. These provisions will provide a win-win scenario for both the grower and the environment. The District expects to hold a Rule 11.3 public workshop within the next few months.

Starting April/May 2009, District staff will be traveling the roads of rural Yolo and northeastern Solano County inspecting and issuing registration stickers for the more than 400 agricultural engines already in the program. Unregistered engines encountered during this process will be noted and may be subject to a fine. Do not delay getting your engines registered - [apply for registration today](#). Engine registration costs \$174/engine; a \$87 annual registration fee will apply for subsequent years.

Applications can be downloaded from the District website at www.ysaqmd.org. The application forms can be found under the "Forms and Applications" link. For more information or to request an application, contact the District at (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650 or e-mail tgildersleeve@ysaqmd.org.

COOL CALIFORNIA FOR SMALL BUSINESSES



Greenhouse gases (GHG). How do they effect the small business owner since the passage of AB32? California small businesses are an important driver of California's economy. While all businesses use energy and produce goods and services and their employees commute to work, there is concern over how this legislation will impact the small business owner.

Because these activities produce GHG, the District encourages the small business owner to join other California businesses to reduce global warming and save money by taking cost-saving actions to reduce these emissions. Under AB32, most actions will be voluntary unless emissions exceed 25,000 metric tons annually. The California Air Resources Board (ARB) analyzed the impact the Scoping Plan implementation for AB32 would have on California businesses and concluded that the primary impacts will be changes in the costs of goods and services and changes in energy expenditures.

To view an innovative statewide carbon footprint calculator for California small businesses as well as households, individuals and communities visit <http://CoolCalifornia.org>. CoolCalifornia offers a **Small Business Toolkit** as a "one-stop-shop" of guidance and resources to help small businesses facilitate voluntary greenhouse gas emissions reductions and save money. Websites with useful information are linked from CoolCalifornia.org so that a busy small business owner need only go to a single site to be directed to all on-line resources. Printed materials are also available. You can also find links to useful solutions for improving energy efficiency, and for reducing your overall carbon footprint.

California's small and medium-sized businesses consume about 18% of all commercial energy in the state. The tools on **CoolCalifornia.org** will help you determine specific actions to take to reduce your carbon footprint and save money, by:

- Comparing your carbon footprint with the California average.
- Finding the best strategies to reduce your carbon footprint.
- Estimating emission reductions from the strategies.
- Finding how to proceed to implement a reduction strategy.
- Finding rebates and financing available for energy efficient appliances and vehicles.

By starting with some simple tips you can start saving:

- Have yourself and your employees practice "Eco-Driving" -- smart, smooth and safe driving techniques that lead to average fuel savings of 5-10%.
- Make sure all office computers have power management features activated. Your business could save \$50 per computer annually by reducing energy demand from computers and monitors.

Small businesses can be green businesses and help prevent pollution, minimize waste, and conserve energy, water, and other resources.

The Small Business Toolkit is one of many actions that the ARB is taking to mitigate the impacts of AB32 and to determine how best to assist the small business community.

STATS: January 1, 2009 - March 31, 2009			
ATC Applications Received	81	Complaints Investigated	11
ATC Applications Processed	92	Inspections Performed	220
PTO Applications Received	73	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	33
PTO Applications Processed	43	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	8

RICE STRAW



Recently, Paul Hensleigh, deputy APCO for the District, made two presentations to Cal Trans regarding the use of rice straw for erosion control. With California being the 2nd largest rice grower in the nation and 95% of it grown within 100 miles of the Capitol, there is a need to find multiple uses for this by-product.

Since 1991, the burning of rice straw has been dramatically reduced with the passage of the Connelly-Areias-Chandler Rice Straw Burning Reduction Act resulting in only 5 - 10% burned currently statewide. The District's rice burning has been reduced from more than 28,000 acres in 1989 to less than 2,000 acres in 2008. Each year, acres burned can vary depending on weather as well as the amount of rice planted but never more than 25% of acres planted.

Rice straw is hardier and takes longer to decompose than wheat straw. Because rice is aquatic, it is weed free in dryland applications. There is an electronic gateway and interactive market place for buyers and sellers of California rice straw and rice straw products. Interested parties should visit www.ricestrawmarket.org.

The District encourages all users of rice straw to implement Best Management Practices in the use of rice straw to avoid or reduce dust problems.



Metropolitan Transportation Plan for 2035
The MTP2035 is available in PDF format at: <http://sacog.org/mtp/2035/final-mtp/>

The MTP2035 invests \$42 billion in the region's transportation system, proactively linking land use, air quality and transportation needs. The investment in transit is 21% higher than the last MTP in 2002 while bicycle and pedestrian projects get a 56% increase. The MTP also invests in programs and planning, such as rideshare matching, 511, community design grants to support local smart growth efforts, and Spare the Air campaigns.

RULES UPDATE

Indemnification of District

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District (District) staff will hold a public workshop on April 9 at 1 PM at the District office to discuss the proposed adoption of Rule 3.22, Indemnification of District. The proposed rule adoption will require District applicants and permit/registration holders to indemnify the District when a third party challenges the issuance of a permit/registration or the manner in which the District is interpreting or enforcing the terms and conditions of a permit/registration.

Air Quality Management Districts in California have been faced with legal challenges as a result of the issuance or denial of construction and operating permits. At present, the costs to defend claims and lawsuits would be borne by the District. This could require the District to spend public resources to defend a permit action that materially benefits the permit holder.

Many public agencies in California require a permit/registration applicant to enter into an agreement through which the applicant agrees to bear the costs associated with defending the permit/registration approval in court. The State Attorney General released a legal opinion (01-701) that supports the adoption of an indemnification clause.

Indemnification provisions are currently in place in the South Coast AQMD, San Diego County APCD, Butte County AQMD, Placer County APCD, and Tehama County APCD. Under the proposed rule, once the District receives a legal notice, petition or complaint by a third party, the District will notify the applicant or permit/registration holder within 10 days. Once the applicant or permit/registration holder has been notified, they can choose to withdraw or cancel their permit or application, or they can choose to sign an indemnity agreement with the District. The permit/registration holder can also file an appeal with the District Governing Board. If the permit holder or permit applicant does not respond to the District within 30 days of receiving notification from the District, the permit will be revoked or application will be cancelled by the District.

The District encourages public comment prior to the April 9 workshop. Submit comments to Tiffany Lathrop via mail or email at tlathrop@ysaqmd.org.

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 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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