

## UPDATES

### Summer Road Trip Check List

Here are steps that you can take to make your summer travels more hassle-free and enjoyable, while saving money and helping the environment.



#### Saving gas saves you money and helps the environment.

- ⚡ Refuel when it's cool either early morning or in the evening.
- ⚡ Don't top off your tank - stop at the click.
- ⚡ Don't let your car idle more than 30 seconds.
- ⚡ Don't sit in traffic. Travel at times other than rush hour, if possible.
- ⚡ Avoid lines at drive-thrus.
- ⚡ Avoid jackrabbit starts and lead-foot stops.
- ⚡ Try sharing a ride or taking public transportation on your vacation.

#### Treat your car well and it will take care of you and the air.

- ⚡ Keep your tires inflated to the recommended level.
- ⚡ Get regular tune-ups.
- ⚡ Keep your air filter clean.
- ⚡ Change the oil regularly, as recommended in your owner's manual.
- ⚡ Make sure your car's catalytic converter is connected and working properly.
- ⚡ Make sure your gas cap closes tightly - replace it if it's old.

1947 Galileo Court, Suite 103  
 Davis, CA 95616  
 (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

## CALENDAR

July 12, 2006 9:00 AM  
 Y-S AQMD Board of Directors  
 1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

July 29, 2006 9 AM - 9 PM  
 Visit our booth at Lambtown  
 Festival in Dixon.

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

August 16-20 Woodland  
 Visit our booth at the Yolo  
 County Fair and enter a  
 drawing for a Neuton  
 Electric Mower.

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

# YOLO-SOLANO

AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT



Air Aware - A Publication of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

### Summer 2006

*According to a recent study, not all air cleaning devices are appropriate for home use — some can be harmful to human health. The results of this study demonstrate that the use of "air cleaners" that intentionally emit ozone can result in room concentrations that exceed state and national health-based standards.*

- ARB



Yolo-Solano  
 Air Quality  
 Management District  
 530-757-3650  
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### Beware of Ozone Generating Air Purifiers

There are manufacturers marketing appliances labeled as "air purifiers" or "air cleaners" that intentionally generate ozone, the primary component of smog. These devices, called "ozone generators", most often use metal plate electrodes or needle electrodes to create electrical discharges that produce ozone, typically in large quantities. Operation of these devices in the confined spaces of homes and commercial buildings has been known to cause unhealthy ozone exposures -elevated room ozone concentrations above the health-based state and federal ambient air quality standards for ozone. The current California Ambient Air Quality Standards (CAAQS) for ozone are 90 parts per billion (ppb) for a 1-hour averaging time, and 70 ppb for an 8- hour averaging time; the parallel federal standard is 80 ppb for an 8-hour average.

A report from the Air Resources Board (ARB) recommends that ozone generators, air cleaners that intentionally produce ozone, not be used in the home. Ozone is a gas that can cause health problems, including respiratory tract irritation and breathing difficulty. The report on tests conducted on several models of ozone generators is now available.

#### Are ozone generators effective at cleaning air?

Some devices are marketed with advertising claims that they will kill viruses, bacteria, mold and other biological contaminants, and remove chemical contaminants and odors. However, studies have shown that, when ozone concentrations are below the health standards, it does not effectively remove biological contaminants. Ozone also does not remove particles (e.g. dust and pollen) from the air, including the particles responsible for most allergies. Research also shows that ozone generated by air purifiers does little to remove chemical pollutants. In fact, ozone has been

found to react with existing chemicals in the air to create other toxic pollutants, most notably formaldehyde and ultrafine particles.

Some consumers purchase air purifiers to eradicate odors. Evidence shows that ozone concentrations below the health standards are not effective in removing many odor-causing chemicals. Ozone is also known to deaden one's sense of smell. Not only does this disguise rather than eliminate odors, it can also have the dangerous effect of decreasing a person's ability to detect high ozone levels. Unlike the situation in air, ozone can be used successfully to purify water in some applications. This is so because high levels of ozone can be used in the water, most of the ozone reacts in the water, and people typically are not present when the ozone is used.

Instead of using an air cleaner, consumers are encouraged to first eliminate or reduce indoor pollution sources and to ventilate well with outdoor air. The most effective method of controlling indoor air pollution is through prevention: eliminating pollution at its source. To minimize the release of pollutants indoors:

- carefully follow directions on consumer products such as cleaning agents, paints, and glues;
- properly maintain and operate gas- and wood-burning appliances;
- restrict smoking to outdoor areas;
- purchase building materials and wood furniture that do not emit formaldehyde;
- use candles and incense sparingly, if at all; and
- clean frequently and thoroughly to prevent dust and mold build-up.

For additional information:

Staff Report: [www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/o3g-rpt.pdf](http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/o3g-rpt.pdf)

List of ozone generators: [www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/o3g-list.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/o3g-list.htm)

Information courtesy of the California Air Resources Board (ARB)

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## Clean Air Funds

The District received 19 applications for its Clean Air Funds Program for fiscal year 2006-07. More than \$1 million was requested for projects that reduce emission from motor vehicles with 11 projects from Yolo County and eight from Solano County.

The District allocated \$570,000 this year with \$210,000 to Yolo County applicants and \$360,000 to Solano County applicants from a combination of funds collected from the Department of Motor Vehicles (AB 2766 \$4 DMV fees) and Solano County property tax (AB 8) revenues. The following projects received funding in four categories:

Low Emission Vehicles/Clean Technologies  
**Yolo County Transportation District** - repower of buses  
**Unitrans** - new engine for double decker bus  
**City of Vacaville** - Alternative Fuel Vehicle Incentive Program  
**Vacaville Sanitary Service** - retrofit of refuse trucks

Alternative Transportation  
**Vacaville-Dixon Bikeway** - Phase 1  
**Vacaville** -Centennial Bikeway  
**Vacaville** - Nob Hill Bike Path  
**Yolo County** - Bikeway Co Road 99D

Transit Services  
**Rio Vista** - Delta Breeze SR12/160 Service  
**Yolo County Transportation District** - Summer Sizzler; solar lighting at bus stops

Public Education  
**Breathe California** - Clean Air Awareness Program for Schools  
**Yolo Co. Transportation District** - Public transportation education/information

The District's Board of Directors approved the funding at the June 14 board meeting. Please contact Jim Antone at 530-757-3653 or [jantone@ysaqmd.org](mailto:jantone@ysaqmd.org) for more information.

## Woodstove and Fireplace Incentive Program



The warmer summer months are finally here, which means that we will be looking for ways to cool down. But once winter returns, so will our use of space-heating appliances such as woodstoves and open-hearth fireplaces. While these appliances may be effective at heating your home and can be relatively inexpensive to operate, they can also release pollution into the air in the form of particulate matter. 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.

To promote the reduction of particulate matter from wood-burning appliances, the District is working with industry to develop an incentive program that will encourage home-owners to voluntarily replace their old appliances with cleaner EPA Phase II-certified appliances. These 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 incentive will likely be in the form of a rebate to buyers that will reduce the overall purchase cost of the new appliance.

If you are considering replacing a woodburning appliance and are interested in having your name added to a notification list, please contact District staff member Jim Antone at 530-757-3653 or via email at [jantone@ysaqmd.org](mailto:jantone@ysaqmd.org). We will contact you as details become available regarding the changeout incentive program.

## Program to Reduce Emissions from School Buses

As a result of the signing of Assembly Bill 923 (AB 923) in September 2004 by the Governor and the approval of the increase in the annual motor vehicle registration fee (DMV fee) from \$4.00 to \$6.00 per vehicle by our Board of Directors in November 2004, the District will have approximately \$495,000 annually in grant money to fund emission reduction projects.

AB 923 requires that the increase in motor vehicle registration must be used in one or a combination of the following categories:

- 1) Projects eligible for grants under the Carl Moyer Program;
- 2) The replacement, retrofit, repower, or purchase of add-on equipment for previously unregulated agricultural sources of air pollution;
- 3) The new purchase of school buses pursuant to the Lower-Emission School Bus Program; and
- 4) An accelerated vehicle retirement or repair program that is adopted by the state board.

On January 11, 2006, the District Board of Directors authorized District staff to develop a program using these funds to reduce emissions from school buses. The District Board approved the AB 923 Clean School Bus Program on May 10, 2006.

Eligible projects include the following:

- Retrofit of existing buses with diesel particulate filters
- Repower of existing buses with newer lower emission engines
- Replacement of pre-1987 school buses with new lower emission school buses

The District also has been approved to receive \$112,000 under the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) 2006 Lower-Emission School Bus Retrofit Program. This program will allow diesel school buses to be retrofitted with particulate filters at no cost to the school districts.

The District is planning to solicit applications under the above programs to reduce emissions from school buses concurrently with the District's existing Clean Air Funds Program beginning in January 2007. Please contact Jim Antone at 530-757-3653 or [jantone@ysaqmd.org](mailto:jantone@ysaqmd.org) for more information.

## Rules Update

On June 14, 2006, the YSAQMD Board of Directors considered and adopted District **Rule 11.2, Confined Animal Facilities Permit Program**. Rule 11.2 establishes a new permit program specifically created to implement new permitting requirements for confined animal facility (CAF) operations. These new requirements were added to the California Health and Safety Code by California Senate Bill 700 (SB 700).

Rule 11.2 defines a CAF as a facility where animals are corralled, penned, or otherwise caused to remain in restricted areas for commercial purposes and primarily fed by means other than grazing. Dairies, beef feedlots, and chicken broiler/layer houses are examples of typical CAF operations.

Rule 11.2 includes permitting, application, and emission mitigation requirements, program fees, and all other regulatory components needed to establish a new District permit program. Under this new regulation, existing large CAF operations are required to submit an application for a District CAF Permit by December 14, 2006.

Visit the District website, or call the District, for more information regarding Rule 11.2.

## Consumer Products

In 2005, the California Air Resources Board (ARB) reported that consumer products accounted for about 245 tons per day of volatile organic compounds (VOC's) emissions, which is about 10 percent of the total VOC emissions statewide. These include deodorants, hair spray, cleaning products, spray paint, and insecticides. They are made with ozone-forming chemicals known as VOCs. Although each product only contains a small amount of VOCs, Californians use over half a billion of these items a year.

State and federal laws require that consumer products pollute less. Additional reductions in consumer products are part of California's efforts to attain air quality standards. In June 2004, ARB approved amendments to the Consumer Products Regulation establishing limits for 15 product categories that will achieve an estimated emission reduction of 6.0 tons per day in California by December 31, 2006. That date is soon approaching and individuals should make efforts to reduce their use of these types of products.

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://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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**Editor:** Kathy Coulter

**Contributing writers:**

Jim Antone  
 Matt Jones  
 Gary Ma



Ed Farewell, manager of Vacaville Sanitary Services and Dixon Sanitary Services, received the Solano Asthma Coalition's 2006 Environment Award for his efforts to retrofit 24 refuse trucks through a grant for Clean Air Funds.

**STATS**  
 04/01-06/30/06

ATC Applications Received	27	Complaints Investigated	2
ATC Applications Processed	36	Inspections Performed	291
PTO Applications Received	59	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	30
PTO Applications Processed	70	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	10