

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Vacaville Sanitary and Dixon Sanitary received \$100,000 toward retrofitting 24 refuse trucks.

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, under its Clean Air Funds Program, offers to public or private agencies, groups or individuals an opportunity to apply for funds for projects that aid in the implementation of the District's 1992 Air Quality Attainment Plan. Categories include:

- Clean Technologies Programs/Low Emission Vehicles
- Alternative Transportation Programs
- Transit Services
- Public Education/Information

An estimated \$570,000 is available from AB8 and AB2766 funds. For details contact the District at 530-757-3653.

The Sacramento Emergency Clean Air and Transportation (SECAT) program helps truck owners and fleet operators to reduce their vehicles' emissions in a business-friendly manner. Because this region has serious air quality problems, a partnership between local government, clean air professionals, local businesses, and manufacturers have joined to tackle the problem of air pollution from heavy-duty diesel trucks. SECAT funds are available to pay for the retrofit of your existing engine with a newer, cleaner-burning one, or can pay a significant amount of the cost of a newer vehicle. Fleet owners and operators are invited to attend a workshop to learn more about the program.

Wednesday, January 18, 2006, 6 PM

Seating is limited.

RSVP by January 13 to 916-874-4881 or email: khuss@airquality.org



1947 Galileo Court, Suite 103
Davis, CA 95616
(530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650
Ag Burn Line
(530) 757-3660 or (800) 246-3660
www.ysaqmd.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR

January 11, 2006 9:00 AM
Y-S AQMD Board of Directors Mtg.
1947 Galileo Ct., Suite 103, Davis

January 18, 2006 6:00 PM
Fleet Owners Workshop
SECAT Funds Available

February 8, 2006 9:00 AM
Y-S AQMD Board of Directors Mtg.
1947 Galileo Ct., Suite 103, Davis

March 8, 2006 9:00 AM
Y-S AQMD Board of Directors Mtg.
1947 Galileo Ct., Suite 103, Davis

March 15, 2006 11 AM - 3 PM
Registration for mower exchange
www.smud.org or 1-888-742-7683

March 25, 2006
"Mow Down Air Pollution"
10th Annual Mower exchange
Preregistration required.



AIR AWARE

Winter 2006

A Publication of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE 2006

Thanks to technology and programs, we have made significant progress to control emissions from stationary and mobile sources. But we face new as well as continuing challenges to meet our goals to protect public health. It will take significant collaboration between regulators and all stakeholders, and their continued creativity and commitment to do what they can. This includes each of us as individuals. Each day we make choices and those choices make an impact on the environment. While we can thank past air pollution programs — and industry, automakers and small business owners for stepping up when asked — for reducing air pollution and developing cleaner processes, we must continue our efforts. Much of the low-hanging fruit has been picked and emission reductions achievable through technological changes are fewer. It is the actions each of us choose everyday as individuals that are becoming more significant — either to air pollution or to our continued fight for clean, healthful air.

TOPPING OFF - *A little spill of gasoline doesn't matter.* If it only occurred once it would not matter, but when you multiply it by all other accidental spills — in the same air basin, on the same day — it is significant. One ounce of gasoline spilled by topping off times 1000 results in about 62 lbs of unburned gasoline released into the air.

NEW CAR vs OLD CAR - *It is more than just MPG.* The number of miles you can get from a gallon of gasoline is not equivalent to the amount of emissions contributed per mile by the vehicle. A 1998 low emission vehicle is 9.8 times (98%) cleaner than a 1970 car. And remember there are other factors that effect fuel economy: driver behavior & driving conditions, vehicle condition & maintenance, variations in fuels, inherent variations in vehicles, and engine break-in.

CHOICE OF GARDEN AND RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT

- 30 minutes running a gas-powered lawn mower produces the same amount of emissions as driving a 1995 car for 100 miles. An electric lawn mower emits no emissions where it is used, but at the power plant where the emissions are more efficiently controlled.
- Using a 2-stroke gasoline powered hedge trimmer for 30 minutes emits the same emissions as a 1995 car driven 331 miles — zero at the source for electric.
- For every gallon of gasoline you save, you reduce 20 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions so carpool, walk or take public transit whenever possible. But if you must drive, remember if all Americans inflated their tires correctly, 2 million gallons of gas could be saved per day.

The beginning of a new year is a good time to consider how your actions and activities affect the environment. Think of the options available and decide what you can do in 2006 to make a difference.

MOWER EXCHANGE

The 10th Annual Mow Down Air Pollution event will be held at California State University Sacramento on March 25th. Those interested in participating in the event must preregister on March 15 between 11 am and 3 pm on line at www.smud.com or by calling 1-888-742-7683. A limited number of Neuton mowers will be available at a reduced cost with the exchange of a gas powered mower.



- * The event is only open to customers who preregister and receive a time assignment. Customers who do not receive a time assignment will be placed on a waiting list and will be eligible to purchase an unclaimed mower. This event will not be open to drop-in customers.
- * Each customer will receive a voucher redeemable for a discount on a Neuton mulching kit.

For the past nine years the Mow Down Air Pollution program has resulted in 7,798 new mowers sold and 7,964 old mowers taken out of circulation. Yes, some people just want to turn in their polluting mower in order to help reduce the emissions gas mowers create. Additional results from the exchange include 275.2 tons of metal recyclables reclaimed and 157,760 pounds of emission reductions, or 78.9 tons of emission reductions.

For more information on the mower, go to www.myneuton.com or for information on the event contact the district at 800-287-3650 or 530-757-3650.

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WOOD BURNING APPLIANCES



The final portion of **RULE 2.40, WOOD BURNING APPLIANCES**, which was adopted December 8, 2004, took effect the first of January. This rule imposes a number of requirements that will affect anyone who uses a wood burning device in the District (all of Yolo County and the northeastern half of Solano County).

The rule is not intended to prohibit or outlaw the burning of wood, just to require that if wood is used as a fuel, that the negative air quality impact be minimized. The biggest effect of the rule will be to prohibit the installation of any new traditional "open hearth" type fireplace. The following is a summary of the rule requirements:

- 1) Any new installation of a wood burning device (new construction as well as new installation in an existing home) will require the use of a pellet-fueled heater or an EPA certified heater.
- 2) All wood burning appliances must be installed and operated according to manufacturers' specifications.
- 3) A public information component that requires retailers to distribute literature regarding the proper installation and use of wood burning appliances and the health effects of wood smoke.
- 4) A requirement that all wood that is advertised as "seasoned" or "dry" wood must have less than 20% moisture (dry wood burns cleaner than wet wood).
- 5) A prohibition from burning of certain materials such as garbage, treated wood, plastic products.

Because wood smoke has a localized impact, the Board endorsed a model ordinance that a local agency can adopt to obtain further reductions from wood burning appliances. The local agency can not be less restrictive than the rule, however the additional options that can be considered can include the requirement to replace (or render inoperable) a non-certified wood burning heater at time of home sale, time of remodel, or by a certain date. To date, Solano County is the only agency to adopt an ordinance based on the model.

In addition to the rule, the District also promotes a self-regulating program. "**Don't Light Tonight**" is a voluntary program in which the District asks residents not to use their woodstoves and fireplaces on evenings when air pollution, especially small particles, approach unhealthful levels.

The program is aimed at keeping pollution levels below the health standards for particulate matter. 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 level 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.

Residents can find out if a "**Don't Light Tonight**" is in effect by calling (800) 246-3660 or (530) 757-3660. A free brochure "**Light It Right**" is also available on request.

PERMIT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES*		COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES**	
ATC Applications Received	51	Complaints Investigated	5
ATC Applications Processed	51	Inspections Performed	246
PTO Applications Received	63	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	19
PTO Applications Processed	31	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	2
*October 1, 2005 - December 31, 2005		**October 1, 2005 - December 31, 2005	

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 Y-S AQMD office. The public is welcome to attend. The agenda of the upcoming meeting is posted on our website along with the minutes from the previous meeting. For more information call (530) 757-3650.

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

AIR AWARE,

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BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN UPDATES

RULES UPDATE

Bicycle and Pedestrian Program

Coordinators for Yolo and Solano County met in November to share updates on regional bicycle, pedestrian and trails network and related programs.

In 2005, the **City of Davis** established a **Bicycle Advisory Commission** to develop bicycle related programs and to make recommendations to the city council on bicycle related issues. The city was honored recently by the **League of American Bicyclists (LAB)** with their first-ever **Platinum Level Bicycle Friendly Community Award**. It is the highest commendation and recognizes Davis' unparalleled decades-long efforts to create and maintain a safe and efficient network of roads, paths, and related infrastructure, policies and even a "bike culture" where cycling is welcomed, nurtured and encouraged to a degree not found anywhere else in the USA.

KDRT 101.5 FM, a low powered radio station in Davis, features **Bike Talk Radio** which covers local and regional bike related issues every Wednesday from 1:30 to 2 PM.

UC Davis is planning to install bike lanes on Hutchison Drive between La Rue Road and Kleiber Hall Drive from Hwy. 113 to Road 98. The University applied for Caltrans BTA funds for bike racks at the BMU bus terminal.

Yolo County is updating its 2002 Bicycle Transportation Plan with comments due January 19. The County has applied for SACOG funds for the Woodland-Davis Bikeway (Road 29 and 99D) plus Road 32A between Mace Blvd. and Road 105

The retrofit of the Old Railroad Trestle in **Winters** was completed in December and opened for bicycles and pedestrians January 1. The City has applied for Safe Routes to School Funds.

The City of West Sacramento is updating their 1995 Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Master Plan. The City is also applying for SACOG funds for Patwin-Summerfield bicycle and pedestrian bridge.

Solano Transportation Authority (STA) is in the process of seeking sponsors to update the Solano-Yolo Bike Links map and is programming funds for the extension of the Fairfield Linear Park Trail (part of the Cross State Bicycle Route)

Vacaville is continuing the process of extending/completing various facilities including the Centennial Bike Path, Nob Hill Bike Path, Southside Bike Path and Ulatus Creek Bike Path.

Yolo County Transportation District (YCTD) has preliminary plans to install bike racks at various high use public transit stops in Woodland, West Sacramento and Davis if funding can be secured for pads.

Caltrans' Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA), which provides grants to cities and counties for bicycle projects that serve commuters, ended its funding cycle December 1, 2005. There was a decrease of 30% in available funds statewide.

For more information regarding bicycle and pedestrian projects, contact Jim Antone at 530-757-3653 or at jantone@ysaqmd.org



1906 Winters railroad bridge opened for use by bicyclists and pedestrians on January 1. The official ribbon cutting is planned for April 2006. The District contributed \$30,000 in CAF funds.

The Netherlands – with over 9,000 miles of bike paths, more than any other country in the world – is widely heralded as the bicycle capital of Europe. Train passengers are allowed to bring their bikes on board. Thanks to such policies, about one-third of the trips in the Netherlands are on bicycles.

Rule 1.1 General Provisions and Definitions was revised on December 14, 2005. The revisions included an update to the definition of exempt compound to include organic compounds the US EPA has determined to have negligible photochemical reactivity as well as minor administrative corrections and changes resulting in improvement to rule clarity, effectiveness, and consistency with other agencies.

Rule 2.21 Organic Liquid Storage and Transfer, revised on September 14, 2005 was submitted to the US EPA, as a revision to California's State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Achieving and Maintaining the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The US EPA reviewed the previous revision and issued a limited approval and disapproval of Rule 2.21. The latest revision corrected the deficiency cited by the US EPA and incorporated minor changes resulting in improvement to rule clarity, effectiveness, and consistency with other agencies.

Rule 4.1 Permit Fees - Stationary Source, revised on December 14, 2005 included a decrease in fees paid by companies submitting applications to change ownership of Permits to Operate and a correction to rule language in the administrative requirements section 401 to clarify that the existing penalty procedures apply to all fees specified in this rule, not just permit renewal fees. The revision was proposed because the District procedures were revised and streamlined, and therefore the previous fees were no longer appropriate.

Senate Bill 700, adopted into State law in 2003, requires the District adopt a rule regulating Large Confined Animal Facilities (CAF) by July 1, 2006. In June 2005, ARB adopted regulations defining Large CAF's. Of significance is the Large CAF definition for dairies in a federal ozone non-attainment district (Y-S AQMD), ARB set the definition at 1,000 milking cows. District staff estimates that only a few dairies within the District will meet the Large CAF definition. Although the District cannot change the Large CAF definition, the District can make certain findings to regulate dairies with less than 1,000 milking cows. In order to better understand the operating practices of dairies and other CAFs, the District has formed an Agricultural Permitting Advisory Committee (APAC) specifically to discuss CAFs. APAC will meet periodically to review District regulations that may affect CAF operations. Currently, the District is in the early stages of drafting a Large CAF rule that will meet the required elements set forth in SB700.