

## PERMIT HOLDERS

All permit holders should receive a **Throughput Production Report (Report)** packet in the mail by January 15.

A **Permit Holder Advisory** was mailed in December which explains the Report process for first-time submitters as well as changes to the process for our regular submitters.

If you did not receive a copy of the December advisory, notify the District and a copy will be sent to you. If the Report

forms and instructions applicable to each of your permitted processes are not enclosed in your packet, notify the District immediately and the documents will be sent to you.

Report forms may be downloaded via the internet from our website at [www.ysaqmd.org](http://www.ysaqmd.org). These Reports are due back to the District no later than **March 31, 2008**.

If you have any further questions or concerns, call our Engineering Division at (530) 757-3650.

*California's building standards have helped save businesses and residents more than \$15.8 billion in electricity and natural gas costs since 1975, and these savings are expected to climb to \$59 billion by 2011 (CEC 2003).*

## STEPS TO REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE

**1. Be an Eco-Commuter** - One third of the CO2 produced in the US is from the transportation of people or goods. Reduce driving emissions by using clean alternatives.

**2. Reduce your Consumption Patterns** - Reuse as much as possible and recycle. Americans generate an average of 4.4 lbs. of trash per day.

**3. Buy Locally-Grown Food and Locally-Produced Products** - The shorter distance food travels to your plate or that products travel to your home, the fewer greenhouse gases produced.

**4. Replace your Light Bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFL) or LEDs.**

**5. Set your Thermostat for the Season.**

**6. Unplug** - Unplug seldom-used appliances and chargers and use power strips to switch off televisions, home theater equipment and stereos. It will save you \$.

**7. Reduce Household Water Consumption** - Water-related energy use consumes 19% of California's electricity, 30% of its natural gas, and 88 billion gallons of diesel fuel.

**8. Make your Home More Energy Efficient.**

**9. Stop Junk Mail** - [www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org)  
[www.directmail.com/junk\\_mail](http://www.directmail.com/junk_mail).

**10. Calculate & Reduce your GHG Emissions** - <http://bie.berkeley.edu/files/ConsumerFootprintCalc.swf>.



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

## CALENDAR

**January 9, 2008** 9:00 AM  
YSAQMD Board of Directors  
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

**January 31, 2008**  
Deadline to Nominate Clean Air Hero  
[www.sacbreathe.org](http://www.sacbreathe.org)

**January 31, 2008**  
Focus the Nation - UC Davis  
[www.sustainability.ucdavis.edu](http://www.sustainability.ucdavis.edu)

**February 13, 2008** 9:00 AM  
YSAQMD Board of Directors  
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

**February 29, 2008**  
PM 2.5 season and Don't Light Tonight ends.

**March 1, 2008** 9:00 AM  
Registration for Yolo-Solano Mower Exchange - (800) 287-3650

**March 12, 2008** 9:00 AM  
YSAQMD Board of Directors  
1947 Galileo Ct., #103, Davis

**March 19, 2008** 11- 3 PM  
Registration for March 29 Regional Mower Exchange - [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org)

*This fall, the District sponsored a leaf blower exchange program.*

*One hundred polluting leaf blowers were replaced with a lower emissions and low-noise back pack style blower.*

*Participants saved \$170 and we are all breathing cleaner air.*



A Publication of the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District - Winter 2008

## GUIDELINES FOR AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL RESIDENTIAL BURNS

*“Persons conducting a burn must take the steps necessary to minimize smoke so that it does not impact a populated area or become a public nuisance.”*

The Yolo-Solano AQMD is a public health agency and as such strives to meet the air quality standards set by the state and federal government. One area of focus is agricultural and rural residential burning. The District's open burning regulations ensure that the impacts of smoke are minimized thus protecting public health.

All open burning, except for rural residential yard burns, requires a permit from the District. Burns, including rural residential yard burns, are **only** allowed on burn days as declared by the District. To check if it is a burn day, call the Agricultural Burn (Ag Burn) line at (530) 757-3660 or (800) 246-3660 on the day you wish to burn (usually by 9 a.m.). The recorded message will state the burn status and the daily codeword. You must call the Ag Burn Line before contacting the local fire district or county fire control.

### Burn Hours

Burn hours are restricted to ensure a minimum impact on air quality and the local population. Later morning burn hours, as specified below, allow the sun to evaporate the dew and warm the ground, lifting the inversion lid so the smoke will rise. Smoke hugs the ground in the evening as the sun goes down and temperatures and the inversion lid drop, causing a potential for the smoke to remain in the area until the sun has warmed the ground the next day. Burn hours from September to April are reduced due to shorter daylight hours. Ignition before or after allowed burn hours is illegal, as is adding additional materials to an existing fire. The burn hours, as dictated by the Sacramento Valley Air Basin Smoke Management Plan, are: Field Stubble - No ignition before 10 a.m. or after 5 p.m. From September 15 through April 1, no field crops are to be ignited before 10 a.m. or after 3 p.m. All other burns - No ignition before 8 a.m. or after 5

p.m., or one hour before sunset, whichever is earlier. For more information, you can view the Sacramento Valley Air Basin Smoke Management Plan through a link on our website at [www.ysaqmd.org](http://www.ysaqmd.org) on the Burn Programs page under the heading Forms & Information.

A residential yard is defined as any property, not located in an incorporated city, which contains living quarters and is not used in commercial operations. Persons wanting to conduct residential yard burns **must** have approval of the local fire district on the day of the burn.

**Burn barrels** and burning of household garbage, old or treated wood or lumber are **not** allowed. Only dry vegetative material from your immediate property can be burned.

### Penalties

State law and District rules provide for substantial penalties to persons found to be in violation of open burning regulations, which include but are not limited to illegal material, smoke nuisance and burning outside of the burn hours. The District reserves the right to order an illegal or out of control fire to be extinguished. In addition to any penalty, a person may also be responsible for any cost incurred when a fire control agency puts out a fire.

Persons conducting a burn must take the steps necessary to minimize smoke so that it does not impact a populated area or become a public nuisance, as you will be held responsible. Be aware of changing wind speed and direction and extinguish any fires that may cause a fire hazard or smoke impact.

If you have questions regarding our burn regulations, contact Dave Smith at (530) 757-3662, or toll free within the (530), (916) and (707) area codes at (800) 287-3650.

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## CLEAN AIR FUNDS

The District's fiscal year 2008-09 Clean Air Funds Program application period begins January 14. Approximately \$630,000 is available to fund projects that reduce emissions from mobile sources.

The District estimates that \$350,000 (AB2766) will be available for projects sponsored by public and private organizations in Yolo and eastern Solano Counties. An additional \$280,000 (AB8) is available to public agencies in eastern Solano County only.

Applications, due in early March, can be filed in four categories 1) Clean Technologies/Low Emission Vehicles 2) Alternative Transportation 3) Transit Services and 4) Public Information/Education and are selected on a competitive basis. The Yolo and STA Clean Air Funds Committees make funding recommendations to the District's Board of Directors, with the Board taking action at the June 11 board meeting.

Applications for the District's Clean School Bus Program are expected to be available in the spring of 2008. This cycle's funding comes from money made available through the approval of Proposition 1B. Approximately \$950,000 will be available to school districts for projects that reduce emissions from school buses including:

- Retrofit of school buses with ARB verified retrofit devices
- Replacement of pre-1987 school buses with new lower emission buses

School districts are encouraged to apply to replace pre-1987 school buses with new lower emission buses and to retrofit existing buses. For replacement projects, the priority will be to replace the oldest buses first. New school buses may require up to \$25,000 in matching funds from school districts, however, it is likely that no match will be required if a district decides to retrofit existing buses. Details on this aspect of the program are still in development.

For more information on the District's incentive programs, contact Jim Antone at 530-757-3653 or at [jantone@ysaqmd.org](mailto:jantone@ysaqmd.org).

## MOW DOWN AIR POLLUTION

The 12th annual Mow Down Air Pollution mower exchange will take place March 29. Participants must register on March 19 between 11 am and 3 pm either at [www.smud.org](http://www.smud.org) or by calling 888-742-7683. There is a limited number of Neuton rechargeable electric mowers available at the discounted price of \$189.\* (a savings of \$230) Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. For details on the mower. Visit [www.myneuton.com](http://www.myneuton.com).

Successful registrants will be given a confirmation number and a time slot for their exchange of a gas-powered mower. It's a *drive-thru* event so will take place rain or shine with participants never getting out of their car.

The event has reduced nearly 100 tons of emissions from our region and recycled more than 300 tons of metal since its inception in 1996. Electric mowers are considered environmentally-friendly because they use 70% less energy than gas, produce no emissions or gas spillage. There is no need to mix or store gas or make trips to the gas station as well as no tune-ups or starting problems. The noise level is half of gas mowers.

Another mower exchange program is in the works for Yolo and Solano County residents only. The Yolo-Solano AQMD and the Bay Area AQMD are sponsoring a trade-in program which will be an "at your convenience" rather than a one-day event. Watch for details at [www.ysaqmd.org](http://www.ysaqmd.org).

Join us in this effort to clean up the air. Call (800) 287-3650 for more information.

\*Price is based on the exchange of a gas-powered mower.

*Vehicle CO2 emissions cannot be reduced with exhaust treatment devices. They can only be reduced by decreasing the amount of fossil fuel burned by: driving less, using a renewable fuel, getting more mileage out of each gallon of fuel.*

### STATS: October 1, 2007 - December 31, 2007

ATC Applications Received	42	Complaints Investigated	15
ATC Applications Processed	56	Inspections Performed	166
PTO Applications Received	61	Notices of Violation (NOVs)	51
PTO Applications Processed	41	Notices to Comply (NTCs)	30

## HEARING BOARD MEMBER RETIRES



Dr. Alan Jackman, left, was recognized at the December board of directors meeting for his work on the District's Hearing Board. Dr. Jackman served as a hearing board member from February 1973 to November 2007 and as chair from November 1998 to November 2007. Executive Director Mat Ehrhardt, P.E. presented a plaque to Jackman for his dedication to the mission of clean air and service to the Yolo-Solano AQMD.

The Hearing Board is mandated by the Health & Safety Code which delegates to the board the authority to hear and decide three types of cases: applications for variances, requests for abatement orders, and permit disputes. It also specifies that a hearing board have:

- one member admitted to the practice of law;
- a professional engineer;
- one medical professional; and
- two public members.

The District is currently recruiting for a hearing board member who would serve a three year term. If you are interested in applying, contact Kay Mahorney at (530) 757-3669.

## WHAT'S UP WITH WOOD SMOKE?

Woodsmoke from woodstoves and fireplaces contains particulate matter (PM) pollution. Particles less than 2.5 microns in diameter are known as "fine" particles or PM 2.5. Fine particles are easily inhaled deep into the lungs where they may accumulate, react, be cleared or absorbed. Scientific studies have linked particle pollution to a series of significant health problems, including:

- increased respiratory symptoms, such as irritation of the airways, coughing, or difficulty breathing;
- decreased lung function;
- aggravated asthma;
- development of chronic bronchitis;
- irregular heartbeat;
- nonfatal heart attacks; and
- premature death in people with heart or lung disease.

The average adult breathes 3,000 gallons of air per day. Particle pollution can cause coughing, wheezing, and decreased lung function even in otherwise healthy children and adults. Studies estimate that thousands of elderly people die prematurely each year from exposure to fine particles.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, children and infants are among the most susceptible to many air pollutants. Children have increased exposure compared with adults because of higher per minute ventilation and higher levels of physical activity.

People can reduce their exposure to air pollution by checking the daily air quality forecast and adjusting strenuous outdoor activities when an unhealthy AQI is forecast.

For homes in our jurisdiction with wood burning appliances, the District encourages residents to check for our "Don't Light Tonight" advisories, a voluntary program that discourages woodburning when air quality conditions are unhealthy. Call the burn line (530) 757-3660 or (800) 246-3660 for the daily burn status and visit [www.sparetheair.com](http://www.sparetheair.com) for real time AQI readings.

A free "Light it Right" brochure is available by calling (800) 287-3650 or (530) 757-3650.

## COMPLIANCE ADVISORY: Phase II Enhanced Vapor Recovery for Gasoline Dispensing Facilities

In 2001, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted Enhanced Vapor Recovery (EVR) regulations. These regulations set more stringent standards for the equipment used at gasoline dispensing facilities (GDFs) with one or more underground storage tanks to protect human health from the harmful effects of gasoline vapors. The EVR requirements have been phased in over several years - with the major upgrades being more efficient Phase I (bulk loading of gasoline into the underground storage tanks) vapor recovery equipment and on-board refueling vapor recovery (ORVR) compatible Phase II (vehicle refueling) equipment.

The next major EVR requirement is called Phase II EVR. It increases the gasoline vapor collection efficiency of GDF equipment when vehicles are being refueled. CARB requires that all GDFs with one or more underground storage tanks install Phase II EVR equipment by **April 1, 2009**. Only CARB certified Phase II EVR systems are allowed to be installed. Currently there are three (3) Phase II EVR systems certified by CARB. Go to: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/vapor/eo-evrphaseII.htm> for an up-to-date listing of CARB certified Phase II EVR systems.

Consistent with previous EVR deadlines, GDFs must apply for and obtain an Authority to Construct (ATC) permit from the District (and any permits that may be required by other agencies) prior to installing Phase II EVR equipment. After installation, the facility must complete performance testing to verify proper operation of the equipment. Phase II EVR equipment availability and installation may vary widely, depending on which type of system is currently installed at your facility and which CARB certified system you choose to install. Since there can be extensive lead times associated with the installation of this equipment, the District is advising all GDF owners/operators to begin the ATC permit application process as soon as possible.

For more information about CARB EVR regulations, please visit CARB's website at [www.arb.ca.gov/vapor/vapor.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/vapor/vapor.htm). Questions regarding GDF requirements specific to the Yolo-Solano AQMD may be directed to Gary Ma at (530) 757-3671.

## 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.

**Harold Anderson, Chair**  
Councilmember, Winters

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Mayor Pro-Tempore, Davis

**Jack Batchelor, Jr.**  
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**Wes Beers**  
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Supervisor District 5, Solano County

**Matt Rexroad**  
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**John Vasquez, Vice-Chair**  
Supervisor District 4, Solano County

**Jan Vick**  
Councilmember, Rio Vista

**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 call (530) 757-3650 or (800) 287-3650.

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

**AIR AWARE**,  
funded by DMV fees,  
is published quarterly.

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