

News Release

06/14/06

For Immediate Release



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

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Air District's lawn mower trade-in this weekend

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will hold a lawn mower trade-in this Saturday, June 17, in Merced. The Air District offers Valley residents a \$229 discount on an electric lawn mower when they trade in their gasoline-powered lawn mower during this year's annual Clean Green Yard Machines program.

Neuton non-polluting, cordless, electric lawn mowers are available to Valley residents who bring their old gas-burning mower, drained of all fluids, to any of the five events scheduled this year. They will then be able to purchase one of 1,200 electric mowers for \$150 -- a 60 percent discount off the retail price of \$379.

The trade-in is conducted on a first-come, first-served basis and the offer is good only while supplies last. Saturday's event, the fourth of five events will begin at 9am. The location is Merced College, Lot "C," at the corner of Yosemite Avenue and M Street.

The last event takes place June 24 in Stockton.

Participants will also be eligible for t-shirt and garden rake giveaways, and drawings will be held at each event for Neuton electric trimmer lawn mower attachments.

"The Air District does not regulate small engines like those found in garden equipment. But, the impact they make on air quality is significant," said Mike Nelson, governing board member for the Valley Air District. "An incentive like this puts power in the hands of Valley residents so *they* help reduce air pollution

The Clean Green Yard Machines program, now in its sixth year, highlights the negative impact gas-powered lawn care equipment has on the Valley's summertime smog problem. One gas mower can emit as much pollution as 40 late-model cars operating over the same period of time, while electric mowers produce no on-site emissions.

The Air District thanks the following partners and sponsors for making this event possible: Neuton Lawn Mower Company; Operation Clean Air; Valley Clean Air Now; the California Air Resources Board; Golden State Metals; Levi's Iron; and Metal and Stockton Recycling Center.

The Valley Air District serves San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the valley portion of Kern counties. For more information, log onto www.valleyair.org or call the nearest District office: in Modesto at (209) 557-6400; in Fresno at (559) 230-6000; and in Bakersfield at (661) 326-6900.

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