

Free smog tests, some \$500 vouchers at fairgrounds Oct. 29

Sun-Star staff

Merced Sun-Star, Friday, Oct. 14, 2011

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and Valley Can are conducting free smog tests on Oct. 29 at the Merced County Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., or until 525 cars have been tested.

Cars that fail are eligible for a \$500 voucher for repairs at a certified Gold Shield smog shop to get the vehicle smog-ready. If you have owned your car for more than six months and bought gasoline in California between 1995 and 2005, you're eligible for the program.

Food and drinks will be served for free at the event. Participants are advised to bring a current vehicle registration to verify ownership and eligibility.

For more information visit: http://www.valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/pass/pass_eng.htm.

House backs bill delaying toxic pollution controls

By Dina Capiello, the Associated Press

In the Fresno Bee & Modesto Bee, Friday, Oct. 14, 2011

WASHINGTON -- The Republican-controlled House is continuing its campaign against environmental regulations, this time passing a bill to delay rules to curb toxic air pollution from industrial boilers and incinerators.

The legislation passed 274-142 on Thursday. It joins a host of other measures aimed at weakening, delaying or scrapping EPA regulations that Republicans view as job killers.

The measures have little chance of passing the Democratic-controlled Senate. The White House has threatened to veto them.

The boiler rule would have reduced toxic emissions and mercury from more than 13,000 large boilers. Boilers burn coal and other fuels for heat and electricity.

The EPA already had cut compliance costs and delayed the rule until April 2012 due to industry criticism.

Forum to focus on sustainable communities, climate change

By The Record

Stockton Record, Thursday, Oct. 13, 2011

STOCKTON — The League of Women Voters of San Joaquin will host an environmental forum Saturday about sustainable communities and climate change.

The free event begins at 10 a.m. at Valley Brewing Co., 157 W. Adams St. in Stockton.

Speakers include Trevor Atkinson, a member of the city's Climate Action Plan Advisory Committee; Andrew Chesley, executive director of the San Joaquin Council of Governments; and Dave Warner, permit services director for the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.