

News Release

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For Immediate Release



San Joaquin Valley
Air Pollution
Control District

>>Local news, features, and
assignment editors<<

North District Media Contact - Modesto
Anthony Presto: (209) 557-6400

Central District Media Contact - Fresno
Jaime Holt: (559) 230-6000

South District Media Contact - Bakersfield
Brenda Turner: (661) 326-6900

Air District provides incentive to replace gas mowers

The Valley Air District invites Valley residents to trade in their old, gas-burning lawn mowers for discounted non-polluting models through the Clean Green Yard Machines lawn mower trade-in program.

Clean Green Yard Machines, the annual incentive program conducted by the Air District to raise public awareness of the contribution gas mowers make to the Valley's summertime smog problem, takes place this weekend in Modesto and Fresno. The program gives Valley residents a significant discount on an electric lawn mower when they trade in their used, gas-burning mowers. Local scrap-metal companies will recycle the old mowers.

"Valley residents are the people with the most power to improve our Valley's air. This program helps them recognize that and take action," said Dave Crow, the District's Air Pollution Control Officer. One gas mower can emit as much pollution as 40 late-model cars operating over the same period of time. Electric mowers produce no emissions.

Valley residents are urged to take advantage of this limited offer by bringing their gasoline-powered mowers, **drained of all fluids**, to the following events:

- Saturday, May 14, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Home Depot, 1617 N. Carpenter Rd., Modesto;
- Sunday, May 15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Home Depot, 7150 N. Abbey St., Fresno

Supplies are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The first 240 people arriving at each event with a trade-in mower drained of all fluids will receive a voucher – which must be used during the hours of the event - to purchase a Black & Decker MM875 corded electric mower from Home Depot for

only \$100, plus tax. Those who trade-in their mowers also will be entered into a drawing to win one of three other types on non-polluting lawn care equipment. Individuals are allowed one discount voucher per person and the voucher must be used at Home Depot during the hours of event.

The Air District thanks the following partners and sponsors for making this event possible: Black & Decker; Home Depot; Stanislaus County Environmental Resources Department; Valley Clean Air Now; PG&E; Merced County Environmental Health; City of Lodi Municipal Utility Co.; the Environmental Health Institute; Golden State Metals; Heppner Iron and Metal; and Modesto Junk Co.

The San Joaquin Valley air basin is classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as “Serious Non-Attainment” for the national eight-hour ozone standard and must reduce ozone pollution within the District’s eight counties: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and the Valley portion of Kern.

For more information on Clean Green Yard Machines, contact Anthony Presto at (209) 557-6472 or anthony.presto@valleyair.org.