

VALLEY AIR NEWS

A monthly publication of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District - November 2012



District helps Valley residents Burn Cleaner

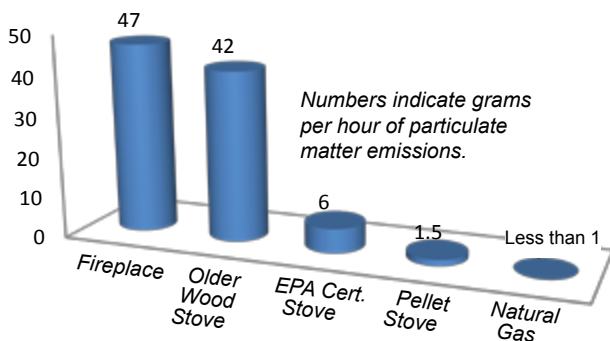
The Valley Air District recognizes and appreciates the fact that a number of Valley residents still wish to burn wood to heat their homes. When air quality permits this practice, the Valley Air District asks these residents to burn as cleanly as possible, and provides incentives to do so.

The Air District's Burn Cleaner Program has incentives to help you upgrade your fireplace with a cleaner insert or replace your old free-standing wood stove with a new EPA certified, pellet or gas stove.

An open-hearth fireplace is a very inefficient way to heat your home and emits large amounts of particulate matter pollution. And although older wood stoves are known to heat a home better than an open fireplace, they're not much cleaner.

In comparison, EPA Phase II wood burning devices have improved greatly in their home-heating efficiency and since 1990 have greatly reduced the amount of particulate matter they emit into the air. Pellet stoves are even better.

Natural gas is the cleanest and most efficient way to heat your home. Natural gas units emit less than one gram per hour of particulate matter, in comparison to an open fireplace, emitting up to 47 grams per hour (see chart below).



Free-standing natural gas stove.



Incentives through the Burn Cleaner Program are as follows:

- \$100 off the price of a freestanding EPA Phase II-certified wood stove or wood-burning insert.
- \$250 off the price of a freestanding pellet stove or pellet-fueled insert.
- \$500 off the price of a freestanding gas stove or gas insert.
- \$1,500 off the price of any of the above appliances for low income qualifying residents.

To participate in this program, you must live within the boundaries of the San Joaquin Valley Air District and must be upgrading to a cleaner device.

For a program application, a list of participating retailers or more information on the Burn Cleaner program, visit www.valleyair.org under the Grants and Incentives tab or call the Valley Air District's grants hotline at 559-230-5858.

Now more than ever, being a Partner is cool!

Recognition, networking opportunities, employee incentives, helping the community and being a part of a positive movement: It's all free to Healthy Air Living partners!

Healthy Air Living – for those who don't yet quite understand exactly what it is -- is a year-round, voluntary program that offers businesses and individuals tools and resources for making small changes in their routines that make big changes in Valley air quality.

Being a partner means encouraging employees at any organization to drive less and find other ways to reduce air pollution by educating them about all the air quality, financial and health benefits.

No matter what kind of organization you represent -- private business, public agency, school, non-profit or church -- Healthy Air Living Partners are valuable to the community, helping to educate the public on the importance of cleaning our air.

The Valley Air District will also provide partners with incentive items for employee raffles, contests, or as a reward for doing something air-friendly, such as carpooling to work.

Your organization will be recognized on the Healthy Air Living website, along with other partners, increasing your visibility. It's like free advertising.

For all the details on becoming a partner and to sign up online, visit: www.healthyairliving.com.

