

# VALLEY AIR NEWS



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## Don't wait for winter

With warm weather still present in the San Joaquin Valley, many residents may not yet be thinking about firing up their wood-burning stoves and inserts.

But, acting early is invaluable, especially when it comes to taking advantage of the available grants to upgrade to a cleaner-burning device *and* getting it registered before the wood burning season begins on Nov. 1.

To minimize the waiting time as the season draws near, residents should act as soon as possible when considering participation in the Burn Cleaner Program, or making their appointment with a Registered Wood Burning Heater Professional.



Valley residents wishing to upgrade from an open-hearth fireplace or older wood stove/insert to a cleaner-burning device can take advantage of the District's Burn Cleaner program, offering \$1,000 for EPA certified wood/pellet/natural gas inserts or free-standing stoves.

In an effort to make cleaner-burning devices more accessible to all members of the community, low-income residents are eligible for a \$2,500 incentive on these devices. An additional \$500 is available for applicants toward the installation cost of a natural gas device. To participate in this program please visit [www.valleyair.org/burncleaner](http://www.valleyair.org/burncleaner) or call (559) 230-5800.

### Why register your device?

Cleaner wood-burning devices such as EPA certified stoves/inserts and pellet-

fueled heaters can be registered with the Valley Air District and allowed to burn more frequently than older, non-certified stoves and open fireplaces, while greatly reducing wintertime particle pollution.

Such devices emit only a fraction of the pollution expelled by open fireplaces and older non-certified wood stoves/inserts.

To register a clean-burning device, visit: [www.valleyair.org/CBYBregistration/](http://www.valleyair.org/CBYBregistration/) and select a Registered Wood Burning Heater Professional (RWBHP) to inspect the unit and perform the registration procedure. The inspection and registration process can only be performed by a Valley Air District-approved RWBHP.

Residents who plan to use their clean device when wood burning declarations are "No Burning Unless Registered," should register every three years. A streamlined process that does not require an RWBHP is allowed for residents who have purchased a new device within the last 12 months of the time of registration. A registration fee of \$12.50 is charged to the resident at that time. Registration for your new device is also good for three years.

Hearth retailers and RWBHPs are often extremely busy as the winter approaches and waiting too long could mean that your device does not get registered before the season begins, and you may not be able to use your device as often.

For more information on Rule 4901 (Wood Burning Fireplaces and Wood Burning Heaters) and more details on the Burn Cleaner Program, visit: <http://valleyair.org/rule4901/>.



Wood Burning Heater Professional inspects fireplace.

## District seeks EJAG member

The District is currently taking applications to fill an open seat on its Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG): Fresno County At-large representative.

Interested applicants need to be residents of the San Joaquin Valley, and must have experience and interest in air quality issues while also representing ethnic and/or low-income communities. Additional EJAG information, including the application, can be found at: [www.valleyair.org/ejag](http://www.valleyair.org/ejag).

EJAG provides advice and guidance to the District for implementing its Environmental Justice Strategy. With this policy, the District ensures all San Joaquin Valley residents benefit from healthier air as a result of the operation and execution of its programs, policies and activities.

Applications can be submitted to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, 1990 E Gettysburg, Fresno, CA 93726 by 5 p.m. Thursday, September 28, 2017.

## 2018 Kids' Calendar Contest



Entries are needed for the District's annual Kids' Calendar Contest. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 2. Details and entry form at

[www.valleyair.org/kidscalender](http://www.valleyair.org/kidscalender).

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