

VALLEY AIR NEWS

May 2019



REPORT to the COMMUNITY

2018-19

2018-19 Annual Report is now available

Hot off the press is the District's Annual Report to the Community. The yearly publication provides highlights of the District's operations, priorities, challenges and achievements during the last year.

The latest report includes updates on a variety of topics, including:

*Approval of the 2018 PM 2.5 Plan and the strategies to meet federal standards

*The AB 617 Community Engagement and Protection Program in the City of Shafter and the South Central Fresno Community, which includes Calwa and Malaga

*Current and new grants and incentives for residents, businesses and agriculture community

Check it out here:

www.valleyair.org/AnnualReports

Residents and businesses get more options to go electric with their landscape tools

Starting in June, San Joaquin Valley residents and commercial landscape businesses will have a whole lot of new incentives to help them go electric as they mow lawns, trim bushes and cut tree branches.

Don't have an old gas lawnmower but you want to buy a new electric one? No problem! The Residential Clean Green Yard Machine Program expanded the types of lawn equipment eligible for incentives to include not only electric lawn mowers but also electric edgers, trimmers, chainsaws and pole saws. Residents in the San Joaquin Valley do not need to turn in old, gas lawn equipment in order to participate in the program. The incentive amount will depend on the purchase price of the new equipment. The maximum rebate amount for equipment costing \$100 or less is \$25 and for equipment costing more than \$100 is \$50.

However, Valley residents who want to replace a gas lawnmower with an electric one can still do so under the original program and receive a larger incentive amount. Depending upon the cost of the new electric lawnmower, residents can get up to \$250 off their new purchase after retiring their old device. To date, the District has replaced more than 5,000 lawn mowers across the San Joaquin Valley with \$1,100,000 in funding.

Residents who participate in the program are required to own the new equipment for a minimum of two years.

The Commercial Clean Green Yard Machine Program is a new voucher program to assist commercial landscape maintenance service providers in transitioning from high-polluting combustion equipment to new zero-emission ones.

Businesses, public agencies and other entities that provide commercial-scale landscape maintenance services are eligible. Participants will be required to turn in their existing old equipment to a participating dismantler, provide the District information on usage and other activity, and utilize the new equipment for a minimum of three years.

For more information about both programs, call the District at (559) 230-5800.

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