

# VALLEY AIR NEWS

August 2021



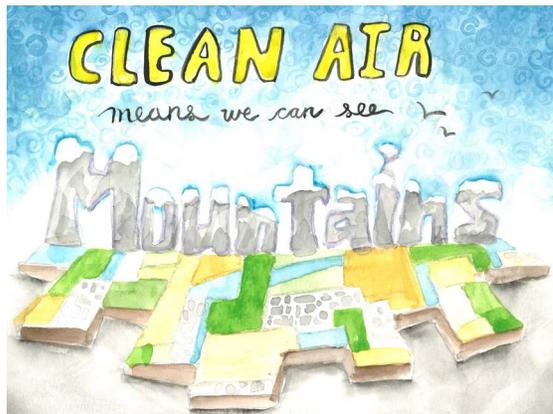
## School is back, turn off your engine

With school now back in session, increased vehicle traffic contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone. Parents can help reduce emissions and protect public health by incorporating some of the following practices:

- Coordinate a carpool or rideshare to get kids to-and-from school.
- Drive less – Look for ways to leave your gasoline vehicle at home more often by linking your trips.
- Walk your children to-and-from school.
- Drive zero-emission or low-emission vehicles – The District offers a cash rebate to go electric: [www.valleyair.org/drivecleaninthesanjoaquin/rebate](http://www.valleyair.org/drivecleaninthesanjoaquin/rebate).
- Keep your vehicle well-tuned – It will pollute less.
- Avoid the use of drive-through services – Turn off your engine and go inside for food, coffee and other services instead of idling in the drive-through.
- **Turn off your engine at school** – When you are stopping to drop the kids off in the morning and waiting to pick them up at the end of the school day, please do not idle.

To help ensure continued progress and minimize pollution associated with school site vehicle idling, the District has partnered with hundreds of Valley schools through the Healthy Air Living Schools program, providing “no-idling” signs and other resources that remind parents to “Turn the key, be idle free” when picking up or dropping off students. Healthy Air Living Schools also includes training for school staff on using the District’s Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN), [myRAAN.com](http://myRAAN.com), which displays hourly air quality data, and corresponding outdoor activity recommendations to protect student health.

To learn more about Healthy Air Living Schools, request a presentation or enroll into the program, visit [www.healthyairliving.com/schools](http://www.healthyairliving.com/schools).



## Calling all student artists!

Here’s a great project for the beginning of the school year. The District needs entries for our 2022 Healthy Air Living Kids Calendar Contest.

Please encourage your child or student to draw a picture, add a clean air message and send in their entry. The contest is open to all Valley students from kindergarten through 12th grade and entries are due by Oct. 8th, 2021.

Students whose artwork best depicts how residents can live a Healthy Air Life and help reduce pollution in our Valley’s air will be featured in our annual bilingual calendar.

For contest details and example of this year’s calendar visit [www.valleyair.org/kidscalendar](http://www.valleyair.org/kidscalendar).

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