

**SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
MEDIA RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 3, 2002

Contact: Josette Merced Bello
Public Education
(559) 230-5850

Clean air partners launch the 2002 Spare the Air season

Just as the discussions on the Valley's smog problems reach a critical stage, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will kick off the Spare the Air program to involve the public in air quality improvements this summer. The public outreach program will begin with Drill Day on Thursday, June 6. On this day, the public, the Valley Air District's 742 Employer Partners and the media practice their Spare the Air procedures in preparation for smoggy days throughout the summer.

Through the Spare the Air program, now entering its seventh season, the Valley Air District alerts the media, businesses, schools and other groups when air quality is forecast to reach unhealthy levels. When a Spare the Air day is forecast, the public is encouraged to reduce or avoid smog-forming activities (such as driving or using gas-powered lawn equipment) until pollution levels decrease. These Spare the Air notifications also recommend that individuals take steps to reduce their exposure to unhealthy air.

This year's Spare the Air program will feature enhanced support from businesses and public agencies. To announce the addition of a sixth round-trip train between the San Joaquin Valley and Sacramento earlier this spring, the Valley Air District will join Amtrak in promoting train travel as a means of reducing emissions.

Amtrak will distribute 1000 Spare the Air travel kits to children riding a San Joaquin train in early June. The kits contain a toy, travel activities and information about the District's Clean Air Kid's Club and Spare the Air programs. Additionally, to promote public transportation Fresno Area Express is providing 800 bus passes that the District's employer partners can distribute to employees.

To kick off the Spare the Air season, 88 employer partners throughout the Valley are participating in the third annual Big Clean Air Payoff. These organizations will offer discounts to customers who practice air friendly behaviors or will educate employees on ways to prevent air pollution to promote the kick off. All efforts, however, will pay off with cleaner air for all Valley residents.

The organizations participating in the Big Clean Air Pay-Off are as follows:

Advanced Drainage Systems Inc.-Madera	H&L Lumber True Value-Oakhurst
Am-Gold Corp-Fresno	Hammer/I-S ARCO-Stockton
AT&T Broadband - Merced	Health Care Center-Farmersville
AT&T Broadband - Stockton	Holz Rubber Co.-Lodi
Bank of the West-Lodi	Horizon Health & Subacute Center-Fresno
Bartels Research-Clovis	House of Redwood, Inc.-Manteca
Beckman Coulter, Inc.-Porterville	Hy-Lond Convalescent Hospital-Modesto
B.E. Giovannetti & Sons-Huron	Internal Revenue Service-Bakersfield
Biola Community Svcs. Dept.	Kaweah River Rock Company-Woodlake
Blair, Church & Flynn Consulting Eng-Fresno	Kerman Texaco/Car Wash
Blueprint Service Co.-Bakersfield	King of Kings Pregnant Womens Prog-Fresno
Bronco Wine Co.-Ceres	Madera Ag Services
Calaveras Materials Inc.-Fresno	Madera Cars Unlimited
California Highway Patrol-Fresno	Madera Community Hospital
CalTrans-Stockton	Madera County Dept./Engineering
CA State Auto Association-Hanford	Modesto Court Room Fitness Ctr.
CA State Auto Association-Madera	Modesto Tent & Awning
CA State Auto Association-Stockton	National Diversified Sales-Lindsay
California State University Fresno	National Training Institute-Fresno
Chateau Convalescent Hospital-Stockton	North Fork Mono Rancheria
Check-N-Go-Visalia	Nuevo Energy Company-Bakersfield
Chemical Waste Management-Hanford	Piccadilly Inn Shaw-Fresno
City of Clovis	Regency Thermographers-Madera
City of Merced	San Joaquin Bank-Bakersfield
City of Stockton	San Joaquin Regional Transit District
Clovis Cemetery District	Saroyan Elementary School-Fresno
Coco Cola-Bakersfield	Schack & Co. Inc.-Tracy
Conglas-Bakersfield	Sherwood Lehman Massucco, Inc.-Fresno
Country Club Autobody	Stanislaus County Planning
Countz Counter Tops, Inc-Turlock	State Farm Insurance-Bakersfield
Days Inn Blackstone-Fresno	Strocal Inc.-Stockton
Delano Police Dept.	Superior Autobody Collision Center-Fresno
Denham Personnel Services-Fresno	TPG Consulting, Inc.-Visalia
Diamond of California-Stockton	The Valley Air District (all three offices)
Discovery Center-Fresno	Thielen & Associates-Fresno
Dynamics Inc.-Sanger	Tulare County -IHSS-Visalia

FACES-Fresno	Tulare County Library
Federal Police-Fresno	Tulare District Hospital
Fresno Area Express	Unilever Bestfood, N.A.-Merced
Fresno Association of Realtors	U.S. Postal Service-Turlock
Fresno Chamber of Commerce	University of California Center - Fresno
Fresno State Alumni Association	Vision Care Center-Fresno
HHSA-Community Services Fam Care-Visalia	Vopak USA-Fresno

As in the past, the Valley Air District will issue a Spare the Air notification to the media and employer partners in the early afternoon for the following day by fax or e-mail. Starting this year, private citizens will be able receive these notifications via e-mail as well. Anyone interested in the service may send a request to charlie.goldberg@valleyair.org or call the District's public education staff at 559-230-5850. Daily air quality information is also available by visiting www.valleyair.org or by calling District's automated smog information line, 1-800-SMOG-INFO (766-4463).