

Cleaning the air
that we breathe..."



Volume 15
Number 5
September 2008

New and Improved AQMD Web Pages



see Improved Web on page 6 ➔

SCAQMD Climate Change Policy

As part of AQMD's commitment to reducing the impacts of global warming and climate change, AQMD staff has developed an initial draft Climate Change Policy. The proposed 10 point guidance was discussed at two public meetings in August. Implementation of the policy will complement existing programs for criteria and toxic pollutants and provide leadership and assistance with efforts to reduce greenhouse gases.

Several actions are proposed, including an update of the Basin's greenhouse gas inventory. AQMD will work cooperatively with other agencies to develop protocols, rules and programs related to greenhouse gases. Lessons learned from the Regional Clean Air Incentives Market (RECLAIM) will help with the development of effective, enforceable cap-and-trade programs.

The draft policy also calls for AQMD staff to review and comment on proposed legislation related to climate change and greenhouse gases.

A key component of the draft policy focuses on how AQMD can reduce its own carbon foot-

print, including drafting a Green Building Policy with recommendations regarding purchases, building maintenance, and other areas of products and services. This process will help to determine the greenhouse gas emissions these activities represent, how they could be reduced, and what it would cost to offset the emissions.

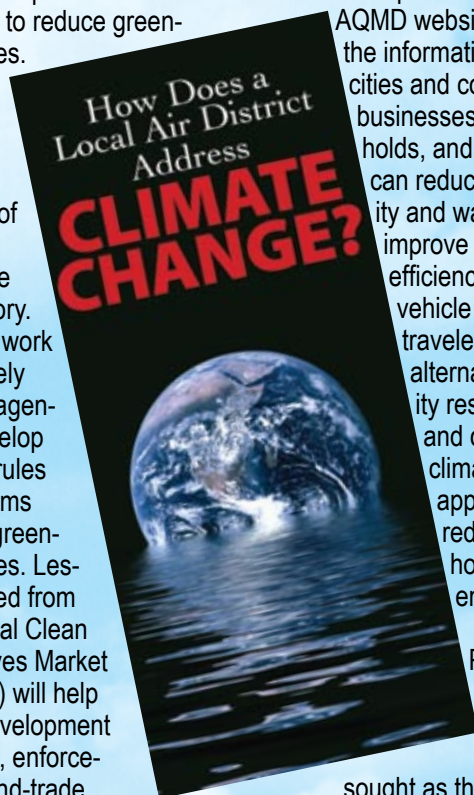
Climate change brochures will be developed and the

AQMD website will have the information on how cities and counties, businesses, households, and others can reduce electricity and water use, improve energy efficiency, reduce vehicle miles traveled, access alternative mobility resources, and other climate friendly approaches to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Public comment will continue to be

sought as the draft policy evolves into a plan that is expected to be considered by the AQMD Governing Board this fall.

For more information, please contact Jill Whynot (909) 396-3104.



Bill Signed Into Law That Brings U.S. Into Agreement With International Ship Pollution Treaty

AQMD has taken an active role in the development of new regulations for marine vessels, which are mostly unregulated and a substantial source of pollutants. Additionally, AQMD supports efforts that result in stricter standards that can help to reduce emissions from marine vessels.

On July 21, 2008 a federal bill, HR 802, the "Marine Pollution Prevention Act", was signed into law and will bring the U.S.



into agreement with an international shipping treaty aimed at limiting pollution from ocean-going marine vessels.

The MARPOL (short for marine pollution) Annex VI Treaty was previously adopted through processes established by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and consists of international shipping fuel and emissions standards meant to address air pollution created by large ocean-going ships worldwide.

This legislation will make the U.S. a party to the Annex VI Treaty. The bill authorizes the U.S. EPA and U.S. Coast Guard to issue enforcement regulations to implement the Treaty and will bring the Treaty into force by defining how it will be enforced in U.S. waters.

Although the Annex VI Treaty's current standards are not sufficient to enable attainment of federal clean air standards in Southern California, U.S. implementation of the Annex VI Treaty would be an important first step.

For more information, please contact Philip Crabbe (909) 396-2632.

AQMD Sponsors L.A. County Fair and Participates in "Going Green" Attraction

The AQMD is a sponsor of the 2008 L.A. County Fair being held at the Fairplex in Pomona, September 5-28, and will be participating as an exhibitor in the new "Going Green – Making a World of Difference" attraction.

At its exhibit the AQMD will promote its mission to protect public health from air pollution by informing, educating, and empowering the public with the latest information about programs, resources, and technologies available to them.

The exhibit will provide information on how residents can access local air quality information on a daily basis, and demonstrate ways they can help improve air quality by utilizing current and new products, and lower-polluting equipment such as alternative-powered vehicles, non-polluting lawn-mowers, and cleaner-burning products in their home fireplaces.

"Going Green" will be a one-stop educational and interactive attraction that will feature a Rainforest Entry of trees and other interactive exhibits that will provide those attending with useful environmental information. The attraction will be located in Building 4.

For additional information on the Fair and the Going Green Attraction, go to the LA County Fair Web Site at: <http://www.lacountyfair.com/2008/index.asp>

For more information, contact Lourdes Cordova Martinez at (909) 396-3214.



Clean Air Conference to be held in Long Beach Sept. 14-16

The Future is Green" Conference and Expo, hosted by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), is being held at the Long Beach Convention Center. Conference sessions will feature panels of experts discussing renewable power generation, green building design, clean fuel vehicles, clean transportation, environmentally friendly agriculture, and green consumer products. The Expo, which includes more than 70 exhibitors and 30 clean fuel vehicles, will be open to the public free on Sunday, September 14th.

You can register online at www.capcoagreen.com/registration or call (800) 993-0302.

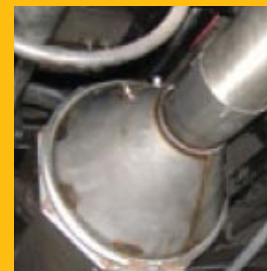


Fritz Coleman to host the 20th Annual Clean Air Awards

NBC Channel 4 News weathercaster, Fritz Coleman, will be the Master of Ceremonies at the 20th Annual Clean Air Awards Luncheon to be held Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. The event honors the achievements of people, businesses, and organizations that have made outstanding contributions toward improving air quality in Southern California. Tickets are available for \$35.



To register, contact Geri Bowen at (909) 396-2778 or gbowen@aqmd.gov.



AQMD Announces Nearly \$68 Million Available to Help Replace Dirty Diesel School Buses

Signaling a dramatic acceleration in the effort to replace the region's aging, dirty diesel school buses, the Southland's air quality agency announced in July the availability of nearly \$68 million in funding to help school districts purchase clean-burning compressed natural gas buses.

"Some of these buses are among the highest-polluting vehicles in operation today and pose a significant health threat to our school children," said William A. Burke, Ed.D., Governing Board Chairman of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD). "This is an extraordinary opportunity for this region. With this funding we will replace about 330 buses."

The funding will help replace model year 1977 to 1986 diesel school buses with new compressed natural gas (CNG) buses and retrofit about 1,000 model year 1994 and newer diesel school buses with particulate traps.

Funds -- from Proposition 1B approved by voters in November 2006 -- will be divided with \$47.4 million available for diesel school bus replacement and \$20 million for retrofits. Funding is also included to help pay for fueling infrastructure.

AQMD also awarded \$955,000 to four school districts to replace all nine remaining pre-1977 diesel school buses in the region.

Since 2000, AQMD has approved more than \$106 million to replace 626 older diesel school buses with 540 new CNG and 86 new lower-emitting diesel buses, and to retrofit 2,777 diesel buses with particulate traps.

CNG school buses on average emit six times less smog and particulate-forming nitrogen oxides than the diesel buses they replace.

For more information, contact Ranji George at (909) 396-3255.

Additional Funding Approved for Natural Gas Home Refueling Unit Program

At its July meeting, the AQMD's Governing Board approved additional funds for a financial incentives program to help consumers interested in driving natural gas vehicles purchase a unit that allows them to refuel from the convenience of their own homes.

With more and more people switching to natural gas vehicles, the program for purchasing a home refueling appliance (HRA) at a discounted price has gained popularity since its establishment in 2005.

"We believe rising fuel costs are helping to continue the momentum for the switch to alternatives to the conventional gasoline vehicles," said Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env., executive officer of AQMD. "Driving a CNG vehicle can cut fuel costs in half."

AQMD will provide \$146,000 to continue its sole sponsorship of the program, which will provide \$2,000 to help consumers purchase a natural gas HRA. The refueling appliance developed by FuelMaker Corp. of Toronto and marketed under the name "Phill" - retails for \$3,500, lowering the cost of each unit to \$1,500 for the consumer.

AQMD will also extend the performance period of the contract, initially set to end in December of this year, to December 31, 2009.

If you are interested in buying the home refueling appliance, please contact FuelMaker at 1-866-MY-PHIL or www.myphill.com.

For more information, contact Phil Barroca at (909) 396-2409.



AQMD Sponsors Asthma Camp 2008

In partnership with the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) California Chapter, the AQMD recently sponsored a week-long overnight camp for 130 children with asthma.

From August 15 through August 18, children ages 8 to 14 with severe asthma participated in daily interactive educational activities at Camp Nawakwa in the San Bernardino Mountains, learning how to manage asthma and studying the factors related to air pollution that can affect it.

Among the topics covered were the disease process of asthma, medication aggravators, the psychosocial factors of asthma, the proper use of spacer devices on peak flow meters, and the role of these devices in asthma self-management. In addition to educational

sessions, camp activities also included swimming and sport activities, and nature study.

A volunteer medical staff of physicians and nurses were on hand to provide specialized care 24 hours a day.

The AAFA was created in 1976 with the objective of providing asthmatic children with this unique camp experience, and seeks to help keep children "in" school and "out" of the emergency rooms with its many programs and services. For additional information on the AAFA's Asthma Camp, visit www.aafa-ca.org/asthmacamp.php, or call 1-800-624-0044.

For more information, contact Lourdes Martinez at (909) 396-3214.

AQMD Encourages Students to Pursue Environmental Careers

This summer, AQMD marked the ninth year of its Student Summer Intern Program. This year's program included 22 students from local high schools, colleges and universities. They were assigned to various AQMD divisions including Technology Advancement, Legal, Public Affairs, and Engineering and Compliance.

The Student Intern Program was adopted by the AQMD Governing Board in 1999 as part of Chairman Burke's Children's Air Quality Agenda. The program is intended to encourage students to become more aware of environmental issues and to consider environmental careers. The students who participate in the summer internship program are selected by AQMD Governing Board members and are assigned to AQMD departments based on their area of interest.

The students who participated in this year's program are pictured to the right.



Register Now for Clean Vehicle Technology Expo

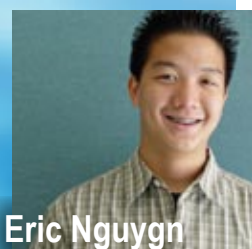
The AQMD Clean Vehicle Technology Expo will be held at the Ontario Convention Center October 13-15, 2008. The EXPO brings together Southern California's fleet operators, infrastructure technology providers, funding agencies, and other industry experts to share information on clean fuel vehicle funding, policies and regulations.

The first day "Money Monday" will highlight sources of funding available to purchase cleaner vehicles or retrofit existing ones. Tuesday and Wednesday sessions will cover biofuels, hydrogen, fuel cells, electrification and the latest in light, medium and heavy duty vehicle technologies.

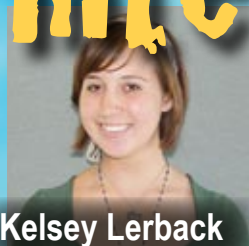
To see the agenda, or to register, go to <http://www.cleanvehicleexpo.com/agenda.php>



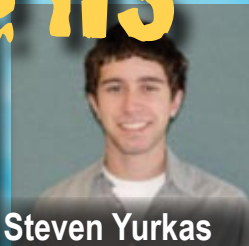
summer interns



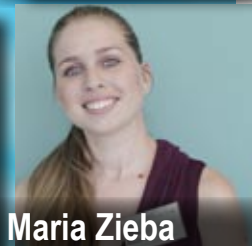
Eric Nguyen



Kelsey Lerback



Steven Yurkas



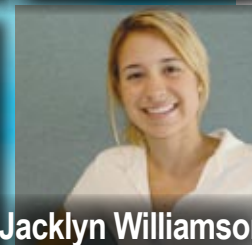
Maria Zieba



Adam Martinez



Shonte Shannon



Jacklyn Williamson



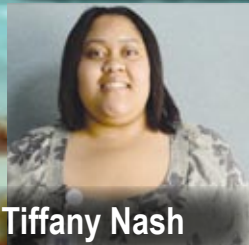
Dustin Edwards



Michelle DeClue



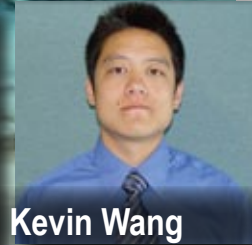
Neil Tran



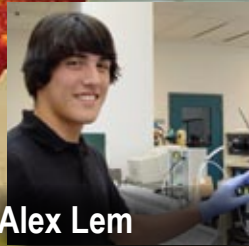
Tiffany Nash



Ian Remillard



Kevin Wang



Alex Lem



Chris Ventura



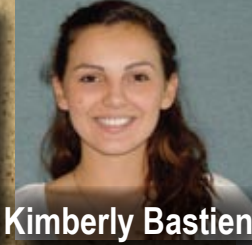
Ray Kim



Roxana Flores



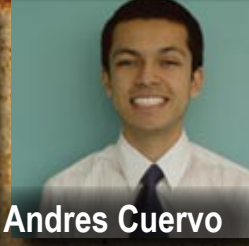
Natasha Hickman



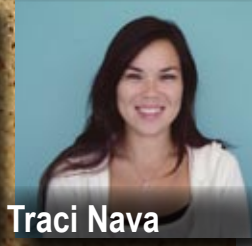
Kimberly Bastien



Karen Hirakawa



Andres Cuervo



Traci Nava



AQMD's Center Courtyard Transformed into an Environmentally Friendly Garden

Over the past few years, AQMD's center courtyard landscape began to show its age. Overgrown and damaged plants dominated the area. AQMD Building Services staff worked with a landscape architect to develop a more eco-friendly plan. A major re-landscaping project was completed late last year. Drought-tolerant plants, many of them native to the area, were selected and a drip irrigation system was installed. The result is an attractive garden that uses less water. Water conservation is an important part of AQMD's plan to reduce its carbon footprint. Reducing water consumption saves energy, which in turn reduces greenhouse gases.

For more information, contact Gary Heiss at (909) 396-2297.

SPARE THE AIR CLEAN AIR FESTIVAL

South Coast Air Quality Management District participated in the "Spare the Air" Orange County Music Festival on Saturday August 30, 2008 at the Fullerton Transportation Center.

The "Spare the Air" Music Festival started as the Orange County Earthday Festival in 1994 with modest crowds of only a few hundred in attendance. Within only a few short years, the Orange County Earthday Festival quickly grew to become the biggest Earthday Festival in the United States with crowds of 15,000 to 20,000 people.

After the success of the last Earthday Festival in 2005, the event organizers decided to set their sights on a campaign to promote clean air by promoting public awareness of public transportation options, alternative fuels, alternative energies, and global warming.

For more information, contact Lourdes Martinez at (909) 396-3214.

RULE UPDATE

The following proposed and amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearing at upcoming Governing Board meetings. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, visit the AQMD Web site at www.aqmd.gov/hb/gb_cal95.html and check the Rule and Control Measure item on the Governing Board meeting agenda or call the Clerk of the Board's Office at (909) 396-2500.

Copies of AQMD rules and regulations can be downloaded from the Web site at www.aqmd.gov/rules/rules.html or provided by AQMD's Public Information Center, (909) 396-2039.

October

Rule 1156 Further Reductions of Particulate Emissions from Cement Manufacturing Facilities

Proposed amendments will address changes consistent with the original intent of the rule to reduce particulate emissions from cement manufacturing facilities. Rule 1156 requires operators of cement manufacturing facilities to follow specific requirements for the reduction of particulate matter (PM) emissions from all operations, and materials handling and transport at the facilities. Proposed Amended Rule 1156 would be more stringent while preserving the original intent of Rule 1156. *For more information, contact Jill Whynt (909) 396-3104 or jwhynt@aqmd.gov*

November

Rule 1155 Particulate Matter Control Devices

Proposed Rule 1155 will seek to reduce directly emitted PM emissions from various source categories through a variety of requirements, including but not limited to performance (particulate matter and opacity) standards, use of certified filtration devices, monitoring equipment, mandatory operation and maintenance plans to maintain optimum efficiency, and other control/operational options. *For more information, contact Jill Whynt (909) 396-3104 or jwhynt@aqmd.gov*

Rule 1469 Hexavalent Chromium Emissions from Chrome Plating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Operations

The proposed amendment to this rule would lower the allowable emission limits of NOx from units with the application of low-NOx or ultra low-NOx burners with or without the use of flue gas recirculation (FGR). It is also the intent of this proposed amendment to harmonize the NOx compliance limits with those limits proposed for Rule 1146 and established in Rule 1146.2. *For more information, contact Susan Nakamura (909) 396-3105 or snakamura@aqmd.gov*

New City Joins AQMD

On July 1, 2008, Wildomar, the newest city of Riverside County held its official incorporation ceremony. Wildomar is the 24th city in AQMD's jurisdiction of Riverside County and is located at the southwestern part of the county near Lake Elsinore.

Wildomar's city celebration and incorporation ceremony were held at Elsinore High School. The event was a night of family celebration and the festivities were reminiscent of an old-fashioned town fair.

Wildomar's first City Council sworn into office that evening were Mayor Bob Cashman, Mayor Pro Tem Bridgette Moore, Councilmembers Marsha Swanson, Scott Farnam and Sheryl Ade. John Danielson is the Interim City Manager.

For more information, contact William Sanchez at (909) 396-3203.



Improved AQMD Web Pages

The South Coast AQMD's home page has been redesigned to make navigating our web site easier. The new, more modern format provides quick access to the wide range of information available at AQMD. Some of the enhancements on our Home Page include:

- A new "Governing Board" tab at the top of the page for fast access to Board agendas and information.
- A map of current hourly Air Quality data in the left navigation area. Users can also click on links in this section to view larger color-coded maps providing hourly updates, as well as forecast summaries for today and tomorrow.
- An "AQMD News" section spotlighting current air quality issues, recently released studies, new programs, and others areas of interest.
- The gray navigation bars at the left of the page have been updated with 4 major categories:
 - "Quick Links" -- a dropdown menu for reaching frequently-accessed information. For your convenience, these will appear on the left of every page.
 - Download Forms -- a gateway page to downloadable AQMD forms
 - Current Programs, Events & Topics -- links to help you quickly reach programs and areas of assistance for residents, businesses, local officials and other interested parties.
 - Subscribe by e-mail -- easy access to adding or removing yourself to or from AQMD's e-mail notifications, subscriptions and informational mailings

Improving our web site is an ongoing effort and we welcome your ideas, suggestions, and feedback on how we can make our site more useful to you. Please send your comments, and any concerns about the technical operation of the Web site, to webeditor@aqmd.gov.

For more information please contact Chris Marlia at (909) 396-3148.

Clean Air PEOPLE

Meet the diversely talented people who work at the AQMD

Fred Minassian



SCAQMD Advisor

He's a traveling man. Fred Minassian received his Bachelors in Chemical Engineering from the Technical University of Denmark. He stayed and worked there at the Technological Institute for a year and then came to the United States. He worked for three years at ARCO's Research and Development facility in Chatsworth, and a year as a process engineer in a manufacturing company in Simi Valley.

Fred received his Masters in Chemical Engineering at Cal State Northridge. In May of '87 he joined the AQMD as an Assistant Engineer in Source Testing. Several years later, in September of 2001 Fred became the

Technology Implementation Manager at the Technology Advancement Office.

Fred is very proud of what his 16-member team accomplishes, administering incentive funding for the purchase of lower-emitting technologies to reduce emissions from heavy-duty mobile sources. His team now handles about \$80 million annually, which is more than 70% of the AQMD operating budget. If you see a school bus in our four-county-wide District, it is more than likely to be a clean bus, due to an installed particulate trap or it is a new compressed natural gas bus. His team makes it happen by implementing the Carl

Moyer, the Lower-Emission School Bus, and the Proposition 1B Goods Movement programs.

On a more personal level, Fred is married and has a stepson. Step inside his AQMD office and there is no doubt that Fred is a Lakers fan. Fred enjoys museums, music, reading, tennis, table tennis, skiing and traveling. He has visited 31 countries so far, including Russia, Cuba, Argentina, Panama, Morocco, Israel, Armenia, and his favorite place, France. He is also involved with fund raising and various youth and cultural activities in the Armenian American Community.

Since he first began working for the District in 1992, Paul Wright has taken pride in being a part of AQMD's clean air mission.

Paul works in the Information Management division as the audio visual specialist. You can find him operating the multimedia production systems for AQMD's conference center during Governing Board meetings and other activities that require audio visual support.

"My job is to allow the audiovisual aspects of AQMD's public meetings & events to be as clear and transparent as possible, by making the technical support invisible, reliable, and up-to-date."

To accomplish this goal, his skills include installing, repairing & maintaining projectors, microphones, cables, mixers, power amps, audio & video recording, editing, and webcasting equipment, electronic testing apparatus, and also staying current on developments in multimedia technology and practices.

Before joining AQMD, Paul worked as a producer/director for government and municipal cable television programming for the City of Lakewood. After five years, he went to work for Focus on the Family films as a video and film editor and production manager, where he remained until joining the AQMD.

Paul received a bachelor's degree in Radio, TV & Film with a minor in Music from California State University, Long Beach. After graduating he went on to take several graduate courses in UCLA's Film, Television and Writer's Program.

In his spare time Paul enjoys off-road dirt bike riding, and boating and snow skiing at Big Bear Mountain. He has also served as music director for his church for the past twenty-two years.

Paul is most happy when spending time with his two children, Kelli, a senior and Doug, a sophomore at Laguna Hills High School. He is very involved in their extracurricular activities, from chaperoning Kelli's performances with her school color guard to attending Doug's soccer and volleyball games.

Looking back on his years with the AQMD, Paul says "It has been rewarding to see how the AQMD and its Board have made so much progress in obtaining a balance in the promotion of clean air for a healthy environment, alternative energy technology, and a successful economy."



Paul Wright

Rainbow Yeung has always enjoyed serving her community. As a former television news reporter in Hong Kong, an auxiliary police inspector, and now a representative for the AQMD, she continuously strives to have a positive impact on those around her.

Rainbow works in the Public Affairs department as a Sr. Public Information Specialist. Since she first started at the AQMD in 2001, Rainbow has been responsible for interacting with local city officials, creating and maintaining contact with Clean Air Congress members, conducting community outreach, and staffing community events.

"What we do here has a lot to do with what happens to the rest of the world," Rainbow says of working at the AQMD. "To me it's not a job, it's a mission."

Born in Hong Kong, Rainbow attended Hong Kong Baptist University. She received a bachelor's degree in communications and journalism, and a master's degree in translation.

Rainbow's first job was as a TV news reporter for Television Broadcast Limited, the largest broadcaster in Asia. She was a correspondent covering stories in Japan and Beijing, and reported on historical events such as the turnover of Hong Kong to China in 1997.

After five years as a reporter, Rainbow went on to work as an auxiliary police inspector, where she investigated various crimes. She describes this point in her life as "very fun."

Rainbow now finds fun in spending time with her husband Ivan, and their two children- Andre, 6, and Ashley, 4. Together they all enjoy camping and traveling. Rainbow has also taken up figure skating since it is one of her daughter's hobbies.

"I wanted to do something good for future generations. I want my children and grandchildren to be able to live in a better environment," Rainbow says about her decision to work for the AQMD. "Clean air is the challenge, and it will become even more important in the future. It's global, meaningful, and influential to the entire world."



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Briefly...

Rule Compliance Promotion Classes

Rule 403-Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin

- Every third Wednesday of the month

This half-day class is held at AQMD's Diamond Bar headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

Rule 403.1-Controlling Dust in the Coachella Valley

- Every third Thursday of the month

This course is held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, Room 119, 73-710 Fred Waring Dr., Palm Desert, CA, 92260. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

Rule 2202-Employee Transportation Coordinator Training

- September 17, Riverside State of California offices, California Tower, Riverside
- October 2, SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters
- October 16, OCTA, Orange
- November 5, SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters
- November 19, METRO, Los Angeles
- December 4, SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters

Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$61.70 per person. Enrollment is limited to 20 students and classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. To register, call (909) 396-2777 or e-mail etctraining@aqmd.gov.

Rule 461-Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing

All classes are held at AQMD's Diamond Bar headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The daily class cost is \$50, the Periodic class is \$150 and the Tester class is \$100. The Periodic Self-compliance Class is a two-day

class. Pre-registration is required for these classes. To register, call 909-396-2583 or email ebarrera@aqmd.gov.

- October 9-10 - Periodic Self-Compliance Class
- October 17 - Tester Orientation Class
- October 24 - Daily Maintenance Self-Compliance Class

Rule 1403-Asbestos Demolition/ Renovation Activities

Classes are from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., held in CC6 at the SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. Please email jmoore@aqmd.gov or phone 909-396-2053 your request with Company Name, Attendee Name, Date of class desired and Contact person's phone number. Following is the schedule:

- September 17
- October 15
- November 12
- December 17

SCAQMD Advisor

This bimonthly news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (SCAQMD) Public Affairs Office. AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange county and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. *AQMD does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.*

To subscribe, send your name and address to: **SCAQMD Advisor**, SCAQMD, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182, or e-mail aqmdadvisor@aqmd.gov.

For news updates and other information, visit AQMD's web site at www.aqmd.gov.

The SCAQMD Advisor is now available online at www.aqmd.gov/pubinfo/webpubs.htm or visit aqmd.gov and select "Quick Links" / "Advisor."