

## Celebrate Clean Air Month May 1999

### Test-Drive an Electric Car

### Test-Ride an Electric Scooter or Bike



### May 15-16 at Costco in Goleta

Clean Air Month, the month of May, and Clean Air Week, May 17-22, are celebrated locally by APCD and the American Lung Association of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. This year APCD is coordinating a Clean Air Month event May 15-16, from 9:30 AM to 6 PM Saturday and from 10 AM to 5 PM Sunday at the Costco Goleta warehouse. General Motors EV-1 electric cars (pictured above) will be available for test-drives, and ZAP (zero air pollution) electric

bikes and the ZAPPY scooter (pictured above) will be on hand for test-rides. Come try something new and get some Clean Air tips. For more information, visit our website at [www.sbcapcd.org](http://www.sbcapcd.org), or contact Mary Byrd at APCD at 961-8913 or [ByrdM@sbcapcd.org](mailto:ByrdM@sbcapcd.org). For more on Clean Air Month and Clean Air Week, see inside, page three. For more on APCD's new Old Car Buyback Program, which kicks off in May, see page four. For more on Bike to Work Day, celebrated May 18, see inside, Business Focus.

### APCD Wins Earth Day Award

APCD was just announced as winner of a 1999 Earth Day Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Region 9, which covers California, Nevada, Hawaii, Arizona, the Pacific Islands and tribal lands. The award recognizes individuals and groups outside USEPA for outstanding collaborative efforts to improve the environment. Our agency was selected for two 1998 projects of our Innovative Technologies Group (ITG) program: the agricultural booster pump initiative, and the Clean Air Express Dual-Fuel Bus Project. For more information on the award and on ITG projects, see our website at [www.sbcapcd.org](http://www.sbcapcd.org).

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# Air Pollution Harms Kids' Lungs

Long-term exposure to air pollution harms kids' lungs, reports Dr. John Peters, heading up a new study by the University of Southern California (USC) and California Air Resources Board (ARB). Peters is Director of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Health at the USC School of Medicine. The study examines the relationship between air pollution and lung health of more than 3,600 kids in twelve communities of Southern California, including Lompoc and Santa Maria, chosen for cleaner air than other cities in the study such as Riverside and Upland.

Sandra G. Johnson, Coordinator of Program Operations for Santa Maria-Bonita School District, which participated in the program, reports: "They set up the study so it really doesn't take up much class time, which is important to us. It's all been pretty painless from our perspective." Researchers come to schools once a year and spend ten minutes with each child who is part of the study (participation is strictly voluntary). The child breathes into a machine that measures lung capacity; parents and children are also asked some survey questions.

Peters explains that lung measurements are not conducted during the smog season, since this study focuses on chronic, or long-term, effects. Previous studies have shown many acute, or short-term, lung effects caused by ground-level ozone (commonly called smog). "We thought that if we found

long-term effects, they would be due to ozone," says Peters. "Instead, we found several chronic effects due to exposure to nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter." Peters was also surprised to find differences in girls and boys. Nitrogen dioxide is one of the pollutants involved in forming smog. Particulate matter is fine dust, metal, soot, smoke, dirt, and liquid droplets suspended in the air. The study also examined effects due to exposure to acid vapor, or suspension in the air of acids such as hydrochloric acid.

**"We found several chronic effects due to exposure to nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter."**

*--Dr. John Peters  
Director of the Division of Occupational and Environmental Health,  
USC School of Medicine*

The study used recorded data on levels of these three pollutants from California Air Resources Board monitoring stations. The early results are based on one year of data—eventually, ten years of data will be analyzed. Starting in 1991, researchers measured lung function of children in 4th, 7th, and 10th grades in the twelve areas, and surveyed children and parents about lung health and differences in housing that could affect lung conditions such as asthma. Findings were then compared against air pollution levels.

Peters found stronger effects in girls than in boys, but is unsure whether this finding will hold up as researchers analyze more years of data. Many factors could be responsible for this, he notes. At age ten, asthma is almost twice as prevalent in boys as it is in girls—but by age sixteen, girls have about the same asthma prevalence as boys. "It could be that during this six-year period in which their lungs are becoming more sensitive to asthma, girls are also more sensitive to air pollution, says Peters. He continues, "That's the benefit of doing a study like ours. Some studies look at one group of fourth graders and then study a different group of tenth graders. We will be looking at the same ten-year olds six years later."

APCD Director Doug Allard points out that while our county has cleaner air than many of the communities in the study, "That's not entirely a fair comparison, since Southern California has some of the worst air in the country." He notes that our county does not meet federal or state health-based standards for ozone, and does not meet state standards for particulate matter.

APCD's regulations and programs work to reduce emissions of the air pollutants examined in the study. Allard remarks, "Studies like this one underline what is at stake for us in air pollution control. We must keep our air clean—for the sake of our children, and our children's children."

## Study Findings

- \* Wheezing in boys related to levels of nitrogen dioxide and acid vapor;
- \* Lower lung function in girls related to levels of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter;
- \* Lower lung function in girls with asthma related to levels of ozone;
- \* Lower lung function in boys who spend more time outdoors related to levels of ozone;
- \* Bronchial symptoms in asthmatic kids related to levels of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter;
- \* Slowed lung function growth related to levels of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter, with effects stronger in kids who are asthmatic, or who spend more time outdoors.

## Clean Air Month and Clean Air Week

### APCD Board Roundup

Following are the highlights of the February and March Board meetings.

#### February

- ✓ Executed a grant agreement with Parsons Engineering Science, Inc. for \$250,000 to implement the Old Car Buyback Program.
- ✓ Received a briefing and provided direction to staff regarding a request by local fishermen to implement a new marine vessel repower program that would convert gasoline engines to diesel engines
- ✓ Authorized APCD to join other air districts and contribute up to \$5,000 to fund legislative advocacy services to increase state funding of grant programs to reduce emissions from heavy-duty vehicles.

#### March

- ✓ Executed grant agreements with two farms for repowers of agricultural booster pumps with low-emission engines.
- ✓ Executed an agreement to allow use of the City of Santa Barbara's compressed natural gas fueling facility as a back-up facility for APCD cars and Clean Air Express buses.
- ✓ Adopted a resolution authorizing the APCD's participation in the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Attainment Program, and approved up to \$400,000 in APCD matching funds necessary to qualify for a grant from the ARB for up to \$800,000.
- ✓ Received a briefing on the enforcement case currently underway with Venoco, Inc.

#### APCD classroom visits

During the month of May, APCD is offering county-wide classroom visits for grade levels from 5th grade through 12th grade. Length and content of the presentation can be adjusted for the level and type of class and can include:

- \* Brief presentation on air pollution
- \* Clean Air Month tips
- \* Video on air pollution in California
- \* Demonstration of our General Motors EV-1 (on loan from Saturn of Oxnard) or one of our compressed natural gas vehicles.

*For more information, call Mary Byrd at 961-8913 or Frances Gilliland at 961-8838.*

#### Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools

During Clean Air Week, May 17-22, the local chapter of the American Lung Association (ALA) is kicking off an indoor air quality program for schools. A *Tools for Schools* kit,

developed by the ALA with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and several other organizations, helps schools diagnose and correct indoor air problems.

*For more information, call the ALA office at 963-1426.*



*APCD Director Doug Allard and Debbie Weeks, director of the American Lung Association of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. APCD and ALA will host a number of Clean Air Month activities in May (see page one and article above).*

## Clean Air Tips

Here are just a few clean air tips from APCD and ALA. For more tips, visit our table at Costco May 15-16, or see APCD's website at [www.sbcapcd.org](http://www.sbcapcd.org)

- ◆ Use an electric lawnmower
- ◆ Turn in your older car for cash (call APCD at 961-8802)
- ◆ Walk, skate, or ride your skateboard
- ◆ Ride your bicycle (call 963-SAVE for a county bike map)
- ◆ Carpool or vanpool or take the bus (in Santa Barbara see [www.sbmttd.gov](http://www.sbmttd.gov) for info)
- ◆ Telecommute
- ◆ Shop by phone, or online
- ◆ Hand-wash instead of dry clean
- ◆ Lease an electric car
- ◆ Use compact fluorescent light bulbs
- ◆ Educate yourself: visit APCD's website at [www.sbcapcd.org](http://www.sbcapcd.org), or the ALA website at [www.lungusa.org](http://www.lungusa.org)
- ◆ Combine car trips
- ◆ Buy products made with recycled materials
- ◆ Buy products with less packaging
- ◆ Speak out for clean air
- ◆ Don't top-off your tank
- ◆ Use a broom instead of a leafblower



## Air Pollution Control District Board

Supervisor Naomi Schwartz

*First District*

*Santa Barbara County*

Supervisor Susan Rose

*Second District*

*Santa Barbara County*

Supervisor Gail Marshall

*Third District*

*Santa Barbara County*

Supervisor Joni Gray

*Fourth District*

*Santa Barbara County*

Supervisor Tom Urbanske

*Fifth District*

*Santa Barbara County*

Councilmember Russ Hicks

*City of Buellton*

Councilmember Dick Weinberg

*City of Carpinteria*

Mayor Sam Arca

*City of Guadalupe*

Councilmember DeWayne Holmdahl

*City of Lompoc*

Councilmember Elinor Langer

*City of Santa Barbara*

Councilmember Larry Lavagnino

*City of Santa Maria*

Councilmember Ed Andrisek

*City of Solvang*

## APCD Board Calendar

*All meetings start at 2 p.m.  
For final meeting agendas,  
call the APCD Board Clerk,  
568-2247.*

### April 15, 1999

Board of Supervisors  
Hearing Room  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara

### May 20, 1999

Lompoc City Council  
Chambers  
100 Civic Center Plaza  
Lompoc

### July 15, 1999

Board of Supervisors  
Hearing Room  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara

### July 15, 1999

Board of Supervisors  
Hearing Room  
511 East Lakeside Parkway  
Santa Maria

## Community Advisory Council

The APCD Community Advisory Council meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Windmill Motor Inn in Buellton. The public is welcome. For more information, call Linda Beard, 961-8853.

## Permit & Compliance Summary

	JAN	FEB
ATC Permits Issued	6	6
PTO Permits Issued	21	8
Exemptions Determined	0	1
Inspections Made	33	65
Notices of Violation Issued	14	13
Administrative Infractions (subset of above)	5	1
Complaints Received	25	25

## On the Net • [www.sbcapcd.org](http://www.sbcapcd.org)

### ❖ New for Engineering and Permits

Our Engineering and Permit Services webpages now feature a new page describing recent additions to this section of our website. From our home page, go to Engineering and Permits, and click on "What's New" to find out about new and revised items, including:

- \* New Permit Guideline Documents;
- \* Updated and new application forms;
- \* Updated calculation spreadsheets;
- \* Updated emission reduction credit (ERC) Source Register pages.

For more information, contact Mike Goldman at APCD at 961-8821, or at [mfg@sbcapcd.org](mailto:mfg@sbcapcd.org).

### ❖ Old Car Buyback Program

Our website now features information about our Old Car Buyback Program, designed to take older, high-polluting cars off the road. The program offers \$500 in cash for a car or light-duty truck that meets certain requirements.

For details, click on "Old Car Buyback" from our home page, or call the program information line at 961-8802.



Santa Barbara County  
Air Pollution Control District

### Main Office

26 Castilian Drive, B-23  
Goleta, CA 93117  
(805) 961-8800

### Business Assistance

(805) 961-8868

### Daily Air Quality Report

(805) 961-8804

### Complaints/Public Information

(805) 961-8800

### World Wide Web

[www.sbcapcd.org](http://www.sbcapcd.org)

### E-Mail

[apcd@sbcapcd.org](mailto:apcd@sbcapcd.org)

*On the Air* is a bimonthly newsletter published by the Community Assistance Section of the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District.

*For further information on items in this newsletter, or to be added to our subscription list, please call Bobbie Bratz, 961-8920.*

Our Vision: Clean Air





## Biking to Work...

### ...and to Everything Else

Four months ago, when Jim Maher told his friends he was didn't want to fix his car—and didn't want to get another one—they thought he was crazy. "Many of them just couldn't imagine living without access to a car," he says. "But this has been so liberating for me."

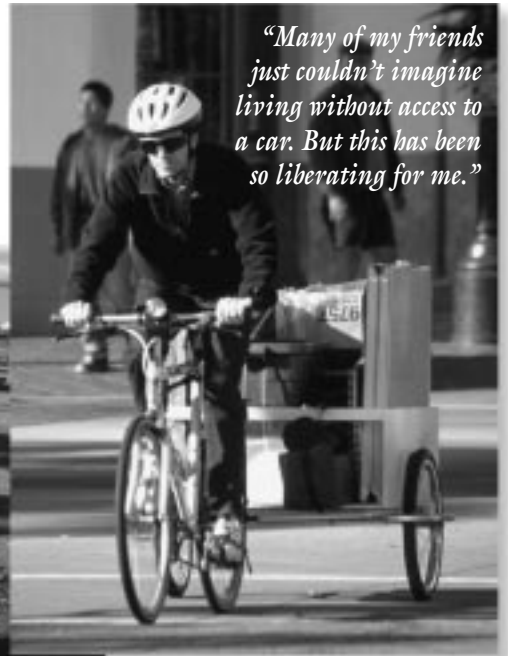
Maher makes jewelry and hand-made soap. And every Sunday he rides his bike three and a half miles down to the Santa Barbara arts and crafts show at the beach, towing a 175-pound trailer with his booth on it. At the end of the day he rides home, towing his trailer—only this time, it's uphill all the way.

"Once you get the momentum going, it's not bad," he says.

"And drivers drive more carefully around me when I'm towing the trailer than they do

when I'm just riding my bike." He has a friend in Santa Barbara who has not had a car for years. "And that was my inspiration. When I saw how much it was going to cost to fix my car, I decided to try living

of a friend, he built his trailer, combining elements from two different designs, for a total cost of \$75.



*"Many of my friends just couldn't imagine living without access to a car. But this has been so liberating for me."*

*Above: Jim Maher towing a 175-pound trailer to the Santa Barbara beach arts and crafts show. Left: Jim setting up his booth.*

without it. And I knew it could work, because I had an example right in front of me."

Maher uses a bicycle that is a cross between a mountain bike and a road bike. With the help

"I get a lot of funny looks," he remarks. "People are just not used to seeing a bicycle towing a cargo trailer."

He adds, "Certainly there are some things I have to plan

ahead for, there are some compromises. But there's a very freeing aspect to it too—something you just can't experience when you're dependent on a car."



### BIKE TO WORK DAY

Pictured left—employees of Yardi Systems, Inc. last year on Bike to Work Day. Yardi built on the success of its Bike to Work Day effort last year and created a Bike to Work Club. One morning a month employees ride bikes to a nearby coffeeshop and then ride as a group to the company's offices in Santa Barbara. "Parking is tight here, and we are all grateful to the regular cyclists," reports Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer Gordon Morrell. (Photo courtesy of Yardi Systems, Inc.)

*See reverse for more Bike to Work Day info.*

## Biking to Work



*Above: Santa Barbara Mayor Harriet Miller on Bike to Work Day. (Photo courtesy of Ralph Fertig, Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition)*

*Left: APCD Director Doug Allard tries out Paul Gracey's Charger electric bike, manufactured by AeroVironment, Inc. Gracey demonstrated the bike at a recent APCD staff meeting. Allard frequently rides his bike to work at APCD's offices in Goleta.*

### Bike to Work Day: Tuesday, May 18

Last year Bike to Work Day drew its biggest turnout ever, attracting almost 2000 participants county-wide. This year Bike to Work Day on Tuesday, May 18 (rain day May 20) will include events at seven locations around the county:

Lompoc 7-8 AM, South Side Coffee Company, 105 South H Street

Solvang 7:30-9 AM, Solvang Park

Santa Barbara 7:30-8:30 AM, State Street and De La Guerra

Carpinteria 7:30-8:30 AM, City Parking Lot 3

Goleta noon to 1:00 PM, Goleta Valley Athletic Club, 170 S. Los Carneros

Santa Maria, 4:30-5:30 PM, City Hall, Cook & Broadway

UCSB, 5-6 PM, Faculty Club lawn (for faculty and staff only)

All locations will have free food and t-shirts (first come first served), for people who ride their bikes to work that day. Watch the newspaper and listen to the radio for more details as the date draws near. The Bike to Work Day Committee is also planning a Bike Week kickoff event for Saturday May 15 from 8:00 to 11:00 at De La Guerra Plaza in downtown Santa Barbara, with free bike tune-ups, safety information, and group rides. For more information, call Jonathan Humfrey, Central Coast Productions, at 688-9507, or visit the Santa Barbara Bicycle Coalition website at [www.sbbike.org](http://www.sbbike.org).

### Cutting Air Pollution-by the Ton

*More than half of commuting trips and three out of four shopping trips are less than five miles in length-perfect for cycling. If we could replace just 3% of car and light truck trips in Santa Barbara County with bike trips, we could reduce emissions of smog-forming pollutants in the county by 9 tons a month. Call Traffic Solutions at 963-SAVE for a county bike map.*