

Celebrating Clean Air Month and Earth Day 2000

Santa Barbara County
Air Quality News
Issue 56
March-June 2000



Leslie Anderson, Exhibits Director (left) and Stephanie Wald, Executive Director, at Santa Maria Discovery Museum with the APCD/ALA Clean Air Month exhibit.

Earth Day 2000 celebrations in April set the stage this year for Clean Air Month, the month of May. More than twenty-five APCD staff helped out with Earth Day and other events around the county in April, demonstrating cleaner electric and gas-electric car technologies, discussing environmental careers, encouraging kids (and adults) to make clean-air pledges, and bringing electric car kits (made possible with help from California Air Resources Board) to county classrooms. See inside for photos.

Clean Air Month at the Museum

Clean Air Month is celebrated locally by APCD and the American Lung Association of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties (ALA). This year, APCD and ALA sponsored a

special exhibit at the Santa Maria Discovery Museum. The exhibit features Air World, an interactive computer display with air pollution facts narrated by celebrities. Air World was originally developed by the Ventura County air district with a grant from the federal Environmental Protection Agency. APCD recently customized it with information on Santa Barbara County, and is currently developing a stand-alone kiosk for Air World.

The Clean Air Month exhibit also features slides on air pollution and lung health, and a display of preserved pigs lungs. Kids can breathe into a tube to inflate the lungs and see how they work. During Earth Week in April at the museum, the Santa Maria

(continued on page 2 of Business Focus)

Smog Season Is Here

Smog season for our county started this year on April 12, when the Carpinteria and Nojoqui Summit monitoring stations recorded levels of smog (ozone) higher than the state standard. On May 1st, the Las Flores Canyon station also recorded an exceedance of the state standard. So far our monitoring stations have not recorded any exceedances of the federal one-hour ozone standard this year. (For more up to date information, and to see ozone levels at county stations updated hourly, visit our website at www.sbcapcd.org.)

Our county is currently designated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency as a "serious" ozone nonattainment area, and is seeking redesignation as an attainment area, based on smog levels during 1997-1999. Smog levels in our county have been going down, thanks to efforts by businesses and individuals to reduce emissions, and thanks to cleaner cars. Weather patterns over the past three years have also helped keep smog levels down. But it was close. With just one more federal exceedance at one of our monitoring stations during the 1997-1999 period, we could be facing redesignation as a "severe" nonattainment area instead of looking at attainment. A lot depends on what happens during this year's smog season. Stay tuned!

Inside...

- ❖ Earth Day 2000
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- ❖ Green Award Nominations
- ❖ National P2 Conference
- ❖ Tips for Businesses



APCD Engineer Mike Goldman points out features of the Honda Insight ultra low-emission, 70 mpg gas-electric hybrid car, at Santa Barbara Earth Day.



Santa Barbara

Thousands of people gathered at Santa Barbara City College on Earth Day 2000 on the bluffs overlooking the ocean to check out

new car technologies, find out about "green" power, see the workings of a wind turbine, watch the making of a sand mandala, explore hundreds of booths, participate in kid and family activities, and enjoy the music of Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Jackson Browne, Kenny Loggins, Dishwalla, and many other performers. The event was organized and led by the Community Environmental Council, working with a coalition of organizations, including APCD.



Earth Day 2000

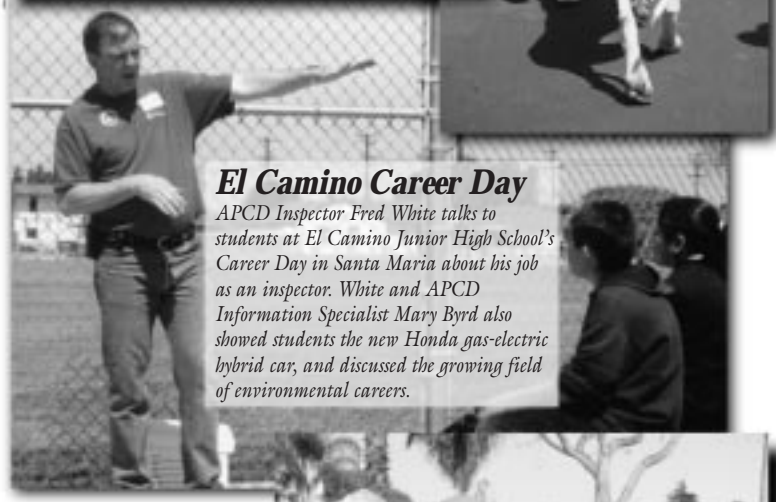


Earthlings of all species celebrated Earth Day in Santa Barbara. (right)



Santa Maria Earth Day

APCD Emission Inventory/Planning Specialist Jim Fredrickson and Office Technician Lilia Macias at APCD's booth at the Santa Maria Earth Day Celebration, which highlighted the grand opening of the new Natural History Museum. (above right)



El Camino Career Day

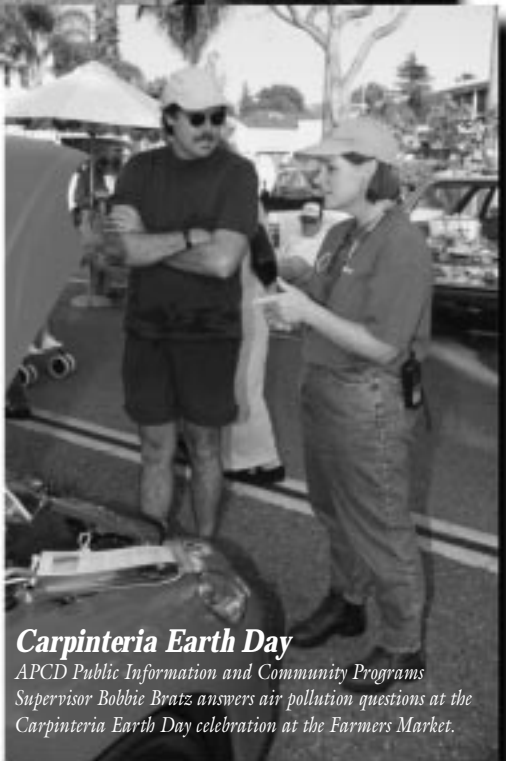
APCD Inspector Fred White talks to students at El Camino Junior High School's Career Day in Santa Maria about his job as an inspector. White and APCD Information Specialist Mary Byrd also showed students the new Honda gas-electric hybrid car, and discussed the growing field of environmental careers.

Santa Ynez Earth Day

Students made electric cars with kits provided by APCD, and raced them at the event. (center)



Sydney James with students in her 5th grade class at Miller School in Santa Maria. Students made electric cars with APCD's help, and checked out an EV-1 electric car brought by Saturn of Santa Maria.



Carpinteria Earth Day

APCD Public Information and Community Programs Supervisor Bobbie Bratz answers air pollution questions at the Carpinteria Earth Day celebration at the Farmers Market.

APCD Board Roundup

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

February

- ✓ Executed grant agreements for low-emission main boat engines and generator engines (estimated to cut 7.8 tons of smog-forming emissions over ten years).
- ✓ Adopted a resolution recognizing attainment of the federal ozone standard during the years 1997 through 1999. Recognized APCD staff for the achievement.

March

- ✓ Executed a grant agreement for the purchase of a low-emission boat engine (estimated to cut 1.6 tons of smog-forming emissions over ten years).
- ✓ Received and filed the 1999 annual report on APCD's Air Toxic "Hot Spots" Program, and approved the proposed program budget for FY 2000-2001.

April

- ✓ Executed a grant agreement with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary for purchase of two low-emissions boat engines (estimated to cut smog-forming emissions by 12.3 tons over ten years).
- ✓ Executed a grant agreement with Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District to provide \$10,000 to initiate and evaluate the viability of a new electric bus route.



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

Mayor Russ Hicks

City of Buellton

Councilmember Dick Weinberg

City of Carpinteria

Mayor Sam Arca

City of Guadalupe

Councilmember DeWayne Holmdahl

City of Lompoc

Councilmember Gil Garcia

City of Santa Barbara

Councilmember Larry Lavagnino

City of Santa Maria

Mayor Ed Andrisek

City of Solvang

APCD Board Calendar

*All meetings start at 2 p.m.
For final meeting agendas,
call the APCD Board Clerk,
568-2245.*

June 15

Board of Supervisors
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

July 20

Board of Supervisor's
Hearing Room
511 East Lakeside Parkway
Santa Maria, CA 93455

August 17

Board of Supervisors
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Community Advisory Council

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

Permit & Compliance Summary

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
ATC Applications Received	23	16	12	2
ATC Permits Issued	21	15	9	5
PTO Applications Received	18	17	12	4
PTO Permits Issued	11	10	4	3
Exemption Requests	16	12	10	7
Exemptions Determined	6	5	4	3
Inspections Made	69	42	81	23
Notices of Violation Issued	18	19	24	4
Administrative Infractions (subset of above)	0	0	1	0
Complaints Received	42	31	22	20



Future Scientists and Engineers

Students in the Science Club at Hollister School build their electric car, made with a kit provided by APCD. Students also checked out APCD's Ford Ranger Electric pickup, as part of a series learning about electric vehicles. The club is led by Bob Kvaas (above) and Bill Theeringer of Hendry Telephone Products. Hendry sponsors the club through the Future Scientists and Engineers of America program.



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Air Pollution Control District

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Daily Air Quality Report

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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, 961-8890 or Email bratzb@sbcapcd.org.

Our Vision: Clean Air



Preventing Pollution

Pollution prevention experts from all over the country gathered in Boston recently to discuss Expanding Pollution Prevention Horizons, the focus of the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable's annual spring conference.

APCD's Frances Gilliland moderated a conference session on local government success stories. The session showcased projects in northern California, Denver, and the City of Gastonia in North Carolina that model innovative, voluntary strategies by businesses and communities

to prevent pollution. One of many conference highlights was a speech by Judith Kurland, Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region 1. Kurland pointed out that children are particularly vulnerable to pollution in our environment, and stressed the need to see pollution prevention as a public health issue.

Representatives from the State and Territorial Air Pollution Program Administrators (STAPPA) and the Association



APCD Business Assistance Representative Frances Gilliland

Pollution Prevention Tips for Business Owners

- ❖ Educate yourself and your employees about air pollution and how to prevent it. Check out our web page at www.sbcapcd.org.
- ❖ Become involved in your community's land use decisions. Speak out in favor of walking-friendly, biking-friendly development. If you are an employer, encourage your employees to leave their cars at home. Contact Traffic Solutions at 963-SAVE or visit www.sbcag.org/ts.htm for ideas.
- ❖ Take the time to think about how your business operates. Can manufacturing processes be modified or eliminated to reduce the amount of pollution (waste) generated?
- ❖ Think before you buy. Do you really need it? Is it made from recycled materials? Can it be re-used or recycled? Set up a recycling program in your office or business. Call the County of Santa Barbara's Solid Waste Division at 882-3600 and look at www.lessismore.org.
- ❖ Do not pour grease or chemicals of any sort into the sewer or storm drain. Photographic fixer and stabilizer, used motor oil, paint thinner, and other chemicals require special disposal and can be taken to the household and small business hazardous waste collection center at UCSB. Call the Community Environmental Council at 963-0583 for more information, or visit www.grc.org. Lompoc residents and businesses can call the City of Lompoc Hazardous Waste Collection Facility at 736-1261 ext. 524.

of Local Air Pollution Control Officers (ALAPCO) offered insights on pollution prevention in air programs. They discussed work focusing on emissions from power plants, urban air toxics, mobile sources, federal operating permits, and climate change.

Other sessions at the conference explored how the way our communities grow affects air quality, solid waste, traffic congestion, and other factors that impact our quality of life.

Communities across the country shared ideas for reducing these impacts, making more efficient use of land resources, and preserving natural resources.

For ideas on how your business can prevent pollution, call 961-8838, or contact gillilandf@sbcapcd.org.

For more information on the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable, visit <http://www.p2.org>

Bike to Work Day and Bike Week 2000

Bike to Work Day celebrations were held around the county in May in Carpinteria, Goleta, Santa Maria, Lompoc, Santa Ynez, Solvang, Vandenberg Air Force Base, and at several locations in Santa Barbara. Photos on this page were taken at the Goleta event, hosted by the Goleta Valley Athletic Club.

Bike Week 2000 this year featured thirty-seven different events, including a Bike Expo, rides and races, slide shows, trail clean-ups, and Bike to School, Bike to the Museum, and Bike to Worship events.

Said Dru van Hengel, City of Santa Barbara Mobility Coordinator, "Our goal was to promote cycling as an important and viable mode of transportation, as well as a healthy recreational choice, by involving the entire community in Bike Week events this year. We're really pleased with the participation.



Thousands of adults and kids were part of Bike Week 2000. It was a big success."



Celebrating... (cont'd from cover)

office of the ALA did a special presentation on lung health, and APCD helped kids make electric cars.

For more information on the museum, call 928-8414. For more information on ALA programs, call 963-1426 (main office) or 928-3233 (Santa Maria office). For more information on Air World, call 961-8833 or contact byrdm@sbcapcd.org.



Stop, Think, Nominate!

What company or organization in Santa Barbara County, big or small, has distinguished itself over the last year with activities that result in cleaner air or water, less waste, less traffic, conservation of energy and natural resources, or reduced use of hazardous materials?

Nominate it for a Green Award!

Call 963-7835 for an application form, or get one from www.sbcapcd.org.

Nominations are due Friday, June 16, 2000. The Green Awards are sponsored by APCD, Santa Barbara County Public Works, the Community Environmental Council, Traffic Solutions, and Santa Barbara County Water Resources.