

Tips for Green Living What People are Doing

What can we do to live more sustainably?

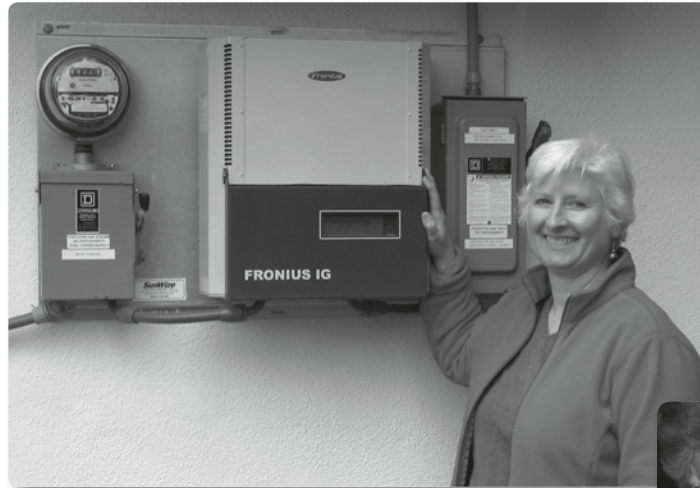
One simple principle is to **use less**—try to cut down on electricity and fuel use, decrease use of toxic chemicals, conserve water, and reduce, reuse and recycle. Another principle is to **think about what you buy**—try to shop local, buy sustainably-grown foods and green products, and purchase goods that are made of recycled materials or of materials that can be easily reused, composted, or recycled.

What are people already doing? *On the Air* invited District staff members to share their own tips for green living.

Using Solar Power

Paula Gregoire-Jones, Information Technology Dept.
“We installed solar panels three years ago. They supply all our electricity, and the electric meter runs backwards during daylight hours. The panels even generate electricity when it is foggy or raining with a light cloud cover. Over the year we have no electric bill, except for a \$1/month connection charge. The only months we don’t generate all of the electricity we use are December and January—but we make up for it in the summer.”

Fact: Solar energy reduces the use of non-renewable petroleum fuels, and cuts pollution. In addition, residential solar power can help reduce peak power demand. Solar panels send power



Paula Gregoire-Jones with solar equipment. The meter on left measures the total amount of solar energy produced. The square box in the middle, the inverter, converts solar output from DC to AC current for household use, and displays solar energy generated in real time in watts. The switchbox on right is the master switch; the system is always on unless there is a problem, or work is being done on the equipment.

to the grid during daylight hours, typically peak power demand hours. In summer months, sunny days that increase power demand for air conditioning, also result in an increase in the amount of solar power delivered to the grid.



Luke Armstrong

Don’t Top Off at the Pump

Luke Armstrong, Accounts Technician

“I used to spill gasoline on my hands or the ground when I tried to spend an exact amount at the pump. Now I stop filling when the pump shuts off automatically, saving me time and smelly hands or shoes!”

Fact: Continuing to pump after the pump shuts off can damage the vapor recovery system, and cause gasoline to get stuck in the hose or spill on the ground. Spilling a “shot glass” (one ounce) of gasoline produces the same volatile organic compound emissions as a car driving 56 miles.

Greener Cleaning

Linda Beard, Executive Secretary and Board Clerk

“I use lemon juice and salt to clean the copper bottoms of my cookware. I wet the pan, sprinkle the salt over it, and then sprinkle lemon juice, and it works like magic – the discoloration just disappears. The grandkids are really impressed. I feel like Mr. Wizard.”



Linda Beard with pan in mid-transformation from discolored to shiny.

Fact: Cleaning products often contain highly toxic chemicals that pollute our air and water, and are dangerous to pets and

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-  **Greening Businesses**
-  **Changing Community Design**
-  **Earth Day 2009**

Tips for Green Living (Cont'd)

children. Lemon juice, salt, vinegar, soap, water, baking soda, borax, and a coarse scrubbing sponge can handle many household cleaning tasks.

Using Recycled Materials for Art Projects

Molly Pearson,
Land Use, Business Assistance, and Public Outreach



Molly Pearson with son Jack and art project.

"My seven-year-old son asked me, 'Mom, what's the best art store in Santa Barbara?' Puzzled, I ran through a few names, including one that sells only recycled materials from businesses, construction projects, and other sources. My son responded that the best one was the store that sells recycled materials, because it reuses materials instead of wasting them. My kids have so much fun using recycled materials for art projects – from that store or from home. It nurtures their creativity and resourcefulness, and makes them more thoughtful about resource consumption."

Fact: Learning good environmental habits when young helps children mature into responsible adults. Studies also show that schools with environmental education programs have higher test scores on state standardized tests than comparable schools that do not have such programs.

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Using a Passive Solar Water Heater

Doug Grapple,
Rule Development

"We installed a passive solar system that preheats the water going into the gas water heater tank. If the water is warm enough, the gas heater does not need to turn on. But, if we have cloudy days and/or high hot water demands, the gas heater will automatically turn on – just like it used to. The solar heater sits on the back side of our house (facing south) so it is not too visible from the front, street side. Also, it has no pumps – the street water pressure is sufficient to feed water to the unit on top of the roof."

Fact: Passive solar water heaters reduce the use of natural gas, a fossil fuel, and associated emissions of greenhouse gases and smog-forming pollutants.



Doug Grapple pointing to location of the solar water heater on the roof.

Composting Kitchen and Garden Waste

Terry Dressler, *District Director*

"For the last 16 years we have been composting most of our kitchen waste (including

vegetables, fruits, coffee grounds, egg shells, and paper napkins) and nearly all of our yard waste (including trimmings, prunings, fallen leaves, weeds, and grass clippings), turning what would be a waste management problem into rich fertilizer. We barely use our garbage disposal, and only use our green waste trash can for large limbs that would take too long to compost. We have two composting systems. For the yard waste, we use a 60-inch



Terry Dressler with his compost system.

diameter open aerobic pile. For the kitchen waste, we have two barrels (with the bottoms cut out) that make up an alternating closed anaerobic/open worm box system. Twice a year we turn the contents of the worm box into the aerobic pile and from the bottom of the pile we harvest rich, black, loamy humus, which we distribute throughout our garden as a powerful and free fertilizer."

Fact: Composting is a way to return fertility to the soil, decrease the amount of waste that needs to be processed for disposal, and save the energy needed to remove green waste from the home.

Recycling

Liz Zavala, *Office Technician*



"At home, my son takes a sports drink to work every day, and he was tossing it in the trash after lunch. I asked him to bring his bottles home to me so I can rinse them out and put them in the recycling bin. We also have several cans in the house so we can sort our 'trash' carefully and keep it eco-friendly!"

Fact: Landfills emit methane, an air pollutant and particularly potent greenhouse gas. Recycling diverts many tons of trash from the landfills every year, reducing emissions and also reducing the need to take up more of our open land space with landfills.

Drying Clothes in the Open Air

Glenn Griffin, *Inspector*

"I discovered that some of my clothes dry very quickly when hung up after washing, so I don't need to use my dryer that often."

Fact: Air-drying clothes (indoors or outdoors) helps them last longer and saves energy and pollution.

See more green living tips on our website, www.OurAir.org.

Teaching Students about our Air and our Earth

On the Air

APCD Board Roundup

Following are the highlights of the January Board meeting (there was no December meeting)

January

- Reappointed Donald Ward, a public representative, to the APCD Hearing Board for a three-year term.
- Received and filed a report regarding renewal of employee insurance plans and programs.
- Approved an additional \$300,000 funding for the Agriculture Water Pump Repower Program, and \$300,000 for the Off-Road Diesel Repower Program.
- Authorized increase of \$150,000 for the Old Car Buy Back Program with the option of an additional \$100,000 increase if community interest justifies it.
- Adopted and presented Resolutions of Appreciation to Brooks Firestone and Will Schuyler for their service on the Air Pollution Control District Board.
- Appointed Eric Onnen to serve as the Board representative to the South Central Coast Basinwide Control Council.
- Selected five members of the Board to serve on the APCD Hearing Board Nominating Committee during calendar year 2009: Cecilia Martner, Doreen Farr, Larry Lavagnino, Russ Hicks, and Janet Wolf.
- Adopted amendments to Rules 102 and 316 to allow vehicle refueling without a Phase II vapor recovery system when the station is dispensing E-85 (85% ethanol, 15% gasoline) or when the station is a non-retail gasoline station dedicated to refueling only vehicles that are equipped with onboard vapor recovery systems.

The District has a range of educational programs to teach students about our atmosphere, air pollution and global climate change—and about how we can make a difference.

Recently District staff made presentations for more than 100 students at Mary Buren Elementary School in Guadalupe,



District Public Outreach Intern Allison King in Guadalupe with the Wheel of Change game, and in Goleta with a wind energy demonstration. The fan is used to create wind conditions indoors; the small wind turbine converts the wind energy to electric current.



demonstrated wind and solar energy for students and parents at Foothill Elementary School Science Night in Goleta, and awarded grants for air quality-related lesson plans and curriculum projects to teachers at Adam Elementary School in Santa Maria, and Maple High School in Lompoc, through a partnership with the Santa Barbara County Education Office.

In addition, R2P2 (Robot Resource for Pollution Prevention), the District's interactive touch screen kiosk, continues on permanent display at the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum, which welcomes more than 30,000 visitors every year.

District school presentations for kindergarten through college are

adjusted for the level of the students, and can include a game with the Wheel of Change, a tour of District air monitoring equipment, a visit to the District's green building, or demonstrations of alternative energy technologies.

For more information on educational programs, or to schedule a presentation, contact Mary Byrd at 961-8833 or byrdm@sbcapcd.org.

R2P2 at the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum with Cindy Ransick (left, Executive Director), and Terri Paniagua. R2P2 is made of recycled equipment that can cause pollution. His cap is the top from a charcoal grill, his eyes are aerosol cans, his arms are older gas pump nozzles, his torso is a gas tank, and his base is an old gas lawn mower. His face is an interactive touch screen, which offers lessons and educational games on air quality concepts.





APCD Board Calendar

Board of Directors

- Supervisor Salud Carbajal
First District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Janet Wolf, Chair
Second District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Doreen Farr
Third District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Joni Gray
Fourth District
Santa Barbara County
- Supervisor Joe Centeno
Fifth District
Santa Barbara County
- Mayor Russ Hicks
City of Buellton
- Vice Mayor Al Clark
City of Carpinteria
- Mayor Lupe Alvarez
City of Guadalupe
- Councilmember Cecilia Martner
City of Lompoc
- Mayor Marty Blum
City of Santa Barbara
- Mayor Larry Lavagnino
City of Santa Maria
- Councilmember Ed Skytt
City of Solvang
- Mayor Pro Tem Eric Onnen, Vice Chair
City of Goleta

All meetings start at 1:30 p.m.
For final meeting agendas, call the
APCD Board Clerk, 961-8853.

May 21
Board of Supervisors'
Hearing Room
511 East Lakeside Parkway
Santa Maria, CA 93455

June 18
Board of Supervisors'
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

August 20
Board of Supervisors'
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

October 15
Board of Supervisors'
Hearing Room
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Community Advisory Council

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

April 19, 2009

Do **YOUR**
Part on **EARTH DAY**
Ride **FREE... on MTD**



Earth Day 2009

Earth Day is celebrated nationally on April 22 every year; local celebrations are held on different dates and at different locations around the county. This year once again all MTD buses and shuttles will be FREE on the date of the South Coast Earth Day Festival, which is Sunday April 19 (10am-5:30pm at Alameda Park in Santa Barbara). The Festival is presented by the Community Environmental Council (CEC); the Ride Free on MTD initiative is supported by the CEC, the District, the Santa Barbara Car Free project, the City of Santa Barbara, and the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD).

In addition, anyone coming to the Festival car free (arriving by bus or shuttle, on foot, or by bike, train, or other car free means) can stop by the District/Santa Barbara Car Free booth and enter to win prizes including Amtrak Pacific Surfliner® tickets, free passes to the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, and more. Cars are a major source of smog pollution and greenhouse gases contributing to climate change. The Santa Barbara Car Free project is a cooperative initiative founded and led by the District, with more than 100 partners—businesses, organizations, and individuals—promoting car free travel to and around Santa Barbara for cleaner air and a healthier planet.

New for Earth Day this year is a Green Shorts video contest open to residents of Santa Barbara County, Ventura County and San Luis Obispo County. Videos shorter than two minutes on the Festival theme "Life after Oil" will be entered for prizes including the grand prize of a laptop. Additional prizes will be available for student age categories. Details are available online; winners will be announced at the South Coast Festival.

For more information on the Ride Free, Come Car Free, and Green Shorts initiatives, see www.SantaBarbaraCarFree.org. For more information on local Earth Day celebrations, check with your local city, or visit the District website at www.OurAir.org.



- Office**
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(805) 961-8868
- Daily Air Quality Report**
www.sbcapcd.org
- Complaints/Public Information**
(805) 961-8800
- Air Quality Advisory Information**
(805) 961-8802
- World Wide Web**
www.OurAir.org
- E-Mail**
apcd@sbcapcd.org

On the Air is a quarterly newsletter written by Mary Byrd, published by the Community Programs 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.



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Our Vision Clean Air

Greening Businesses Leadership for Sustainability—and Restoration

In February, public officials and business and community leaders celebrated the launch of the new county-wide Green Business Program, and the first businesses to be certified under the Program: Allen Associates, a local builder, and the Isla Vista Food Co-op.

The District and more than twenty-five agencies, organizations and utilities in Santa Barbara County are sponsoring the Green Business Program. The Green Awards, a previous green business recognition program, has been phased out. Frances Gilliland, Green Business Program Coordinator, noted that the Green Awards program could honor only five businesses every year, while many more businesses can be certified annually under the new program. She recognized past Green Award winners at the February event, and also listed many businesses that have indicated interest in certification under the new program.

She remarked, “The certification process is rigorous, and that’s as it should be. As one business owner told me, ‘this is a marathon, not a sprint.’” She referred to the program’s statement: “Earning a certificate from the Green Business Program of Santa Barbara County means that you have made a commitment to your community and the future success of your business – a commitment to go above and beyond typical green measures and stand on the cutting edge of sustainable business practice.”



Bill Hayward

The breakfast gathering featured a compelling keynote presentation by Bill Hayward of Hayward Lumber, a cutting-edge national and international leader in the movement for sustainable forestry.

“I inherited a lot of sawdust in my veins—four generations of sawdust—and with that came a tremendous sense of responsibility to the forest,” said Hayward, who assumed leadership of the company in 1993. In 1999, Hayward Lumber became the first company in the United States to stock Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified lumber, which comes from sustainably managed forests. In 2001, the company became the first to

stop selling arsenic pressure treated wood (later made illegal for sale for residential use by the federal Environmental Protection Agency).

Hayward had an environmental vision for the company when he first became head, but he found that not all company staff shared that vision. So in 2001 he took company leaders on a trip to the Pacific Northwest. They visited old-growth forests and redwood forests, flew over clear-cut forests and forests that had been sustainably managed, and ended the trip in a beautiful area near a beaver pond. There he asked the group: “I’d like to know what we think we should do as a company

based on the experiences we’ve just had.”

The group reached consensus that Hayward Lumber should pursue a progressive environmental path, and adopted an environmental mission statement: “We accept the responsibility, recognize the opportunity, and will lead the journey to environmental stewardship.”

Hayward listed five factors supporting the movement towards sustainability today:

- the need for energy independence;
- the urgency of the global warming problem;
- simple economics, and the savings in energy and fuel and other costs that sustainable practices can bring about;
- the fact that economic downturns change everything, providing opportunities for businesses to emerge from the downturn with revised and more competitive green practices; and
- increased awareness among consumers that they have choices, including the choice to purchase a more environment-friendly product.

On this last point about consumer awareness, he remarked, “Ask the question, and you’ll discover the demand. Some companies

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Changing Community Design to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In September, California's Governor signed into law SB 375, a law to control greenhouse gas emissions by changing the way communities are designed.

"This landmark bill takes California's fight against global warming to a whole new level, and it creates a model that the rest of the country and world will use," Governor Schwarzenegger said. "When it comes to reducing greenhouse gases, California is first in tackling car emissions, first to tackle low-carbon fuels, and now with this landmark legislation, we are the first in the nation to tackle land-use planning. What this will mean is more environmentally-friendly

communities, more sustainable developments, less time people spend in their cars, more alternative transportation options and neighborhoods we can safely and proudly pass on to future generations."

Under the bill, the state's metropolitan planning organizations are required to develop a "Sustainable Communities Strategy" as part of the next update to their Regional Transportation Plans. The strategy should align transportation, housing and land-use plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles, and allow the region to meet greenhouse gas emission reduction targets that

will be set by the California Air Resources Board (ARB). SB 375 also provides incentives for creating sustainable communities, and allows certain types of development projects to get relief from, or streamline, review under the California Environmental Quality Act if they build projects consistent with the new sustainable community strategies.

The Santa Barbara County Association of Governments (SBCAG) is the metropolitan planning organization for Santa Barbara County. The SBCAG Board approved a new Regional Transportation Plan in September of 2008. The next update for the Plan, which would involve

the inclusion of a sustainable communities strategy, will not be required until 2013.

In January of this year, the ARB appointed a Regional Targets Advisory Committee to provide recommendations for the setting of the SB 375 emission-reduction targets. The committee held its first meeting in early February, and they must provide their recommendations to ARB by this September. Draft targets are due by ARB in June of 2010, with adoption of final targets set for September of 2010.

For more information on SB 375, and on the state's Climate Change Program, see www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cc.htm.

Greening Businesses (cont'd)

may say, 'We've never seen a demand for this product.' But ask a customer, 'Do you want lumber from a clear-cut forest, or from a sustainably managed forest?' They will want the FSC-certified lumber. You can't find that out if you don't ask the question."

Hayward referred to the need to move from "code-based building" to "performance-based building," noting that many buildings that

are built to the Title 24 energy efficiency standard would fail that test if the actual performance of the building were measured.

Hayward also discussed the need to move from a sustainable model for businesses to a restorative business model. He showed slides that demonstrated first, how the world's forests have been decimated under current practices, and then, how they

could be restored under a restorative model of forestry management.

He concluded: "Let our leadership be our gift to our children."

For more information on the Green Business Program, see www.greenbizsbc.org.



District Grants for Local Businesses

*Funds still available! Funds for Cleaner Engines

Equipment that may be eligible for grants to repower or retrofit includes:

On-Road and Off-Road Vehicles/ Equipment, Agricultural Water Pumps, School Buses, Marine Engines, and Other.

For applications & more info visit: www.sbapcd.org/itg/itg.htm.

Contact Information:

Al Ronyecz at 961-8877 or axr@sbapcd.org.