

DESERT AIR MONITOR



A PUBLICATION OF THE MOJAVE DESERT AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Heaston to Bid District Adieu

On June 30, longtime MDAQMD Executive Director Eldon Heaston is bidding the MDAQMD adieu after a decade at the agency's helm.

"I have worked with the MDAQMD since Heaston became the Director," stated Doug Shumway, of TerraMins, Inc., and an MDAQMD Hearing Board member. "Heaston has taken (previous Executive Director) Chuck Fryxell's collaborative enforcement of air quality rules to where it is today. Our High Desert air is cleaner than it was 15 years ago. Under Heaston's leadership the MDAQMD has become a user friendly agency helping people and businesses get into compliance with the myriad of complex air quality regulations."

Heaston was first appointed Executive Director in March 2006. He also simultaneously served as Executive Director of the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District until 2015. Prior to his appointment as Executive Director, Heaston served as the MDAQMD's Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer for eleven years. In that capacity he managed the day-to-day operations of both air districts, including compliance, regulatory development, engineering, air monitoring and the small business assistance program. Prior to that, he was the District's Environmental Services Manager, whereby he was responsible for the development and implementation of the District's AB2588 Toxic "Hot Spots" Program, rule

development, health risk assessment/modeling, and Federal and State Implementation Plan development.

Before joining the District, Heaston spent over eleven years in the aerospace and petrochemical industries where he held various positions in industrial hygiene and environmental management.

Heaston recently served six years as a Governor's appointee to the state's Inspection and Maintenance Review Committee.

Heaston is a founding member of the Mojave Desert Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association, and a Past Chair of the West Coast Section of A&WMA. Heaston has also served as an adjunct faculty member for California State University, San Bernardino, and was recently named Outstanding Alumnae by the College of Natural Sciences.

"Eldon Heaston engaged local industry in the regulatory process, with a balance between enforcement and compliance assistance," commented David Rib, Environmental Manager, Mitsubishi Cement Corporation. "Heaston really solidified the MDAQMD as a leader in community involvement, and set a great example for future leaders of MDAQMD and for other agencies throughout California."



Eldon Heaston

According to Heaston, he looks forward to spending his newfound free time golfing, and traveling with his wife, Sharon. "I'll miss working with people who knew how to get things done," he commented regarding what he'll miss most about the District. Heaston added that he is also looking forward to helping his son-in-law with his real estate business and to finishing his backyard in his newly-restored, vintage downsized Claremont home.

High Desert Businesses Give MDAQMD High Marks for Customer Service

In today's economic climate, customer service can mean the difference between success and failure for some businesses and organizations. In January of this year, the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District initiated a Customer Service Satisfaction Survey at the request of the MDAQMD Governing Board to provide them with insights on how well staff is meeting the needs of regulated business while issuing permits, inspecting facilities and responding to questions about air quality rules and regulations.

The MDAQMD's last Customer Service survey - which was conducted in 1999 - produced 26 responses. The 2016 survey produced a total of 60 responses, more than double the amount received in 1999. More than 650 postcards announcing the survey were distributed using direct mail and e-mails to permittees and other interested parties between January 11, 2016 and March 1, 2016.

The MDAQMD's Customer Service Satisfaction Survey was designed using Survey Monkey and posted to the District's website. The questionnaire was designed to elicit respondents' opinions on a variety of District services as well gauge how well staff is performing and identify areas for improvement.

The survey consisted of fifteen rating scale questions ranging from ease of contacting the District, technical and rule support, and ease of applying for a permit. Respondents were asked to provide a rating for each topic on a scale between "poor" and "excellent," or N/A for not applicable. Below are some of the survey's findings:

- More than 65% of respondents rated the ease of reaching District staff by phone or e-mail as "excellent."
- Accuracy of service/information provided by permitting staff was rated "excellent" by more than 64%.
- Courtesy and professionalism of compliance staff in conducting facility inspections was rated "excellent" by almost 72%.
- Timeliness of permitting or compliance staff in conducting facility inspections was rated "excellent" by more than 60%.
- Permitting and compliance staff knowledge of technical issues and applicable regulations was rated "excellent" by almost 72%.
- Almost 60% of participants rated the level of service provided by the MDAQMD compared to other California air districts as "excellent."
- Nearly 85% of the respondents rated their overall satisfaction with ease of applying for a permit or authority to construct between "excellent" and "good."





The Desert Air Monitor is a publication of the Mojave Desert AQMD's **COMMUNITY RELATIONS & EDUCATION OFFICE**
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LOOKING BACK ...MOVING ON

Parting words from Executive Director Eldon Heaston

The past 25 years have gone by fast. As I reflect back, I recall that the MDAQMD faced the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments with its Severe-17 designation, no emission credit bank, and the state implementing a daunting AB2588 Toxic Hot Spots program. It seemed at the time an uphill battle. But, together, industry, the District, the County, our cities and military bases united to find a common-sense solution to all of these seemingly unachievable mandates.



Eldon Heaston

First, we had to do significant research and prove how our District was impacted by transport couples which our own state refused to consider. We produced a plan that brought our District into attainment with the 1-hour ozone standard in 2014. Today, ozone concentrations continue to decline even as our population has more than doubled. The District developed a locally-focused PM-10 plan, which although still awaiting approval by EPA, resulted in complete attainment of that standard since 1991. We are still fighting that battle. In 1993, we had legislation passed creating our own District separate and apart from the old Southeast Desert Air Basin.

Later, to address the need for emission reduction credits, we successfully procured legislation to allow inter-basin trades from upwind districts. This accomplishment has been key to the successful siting of local well-paying jobs in the energy and mining sectors. During this time, we were also the first District to use inter-pollution trades and establish ratios that are still the standard today.

You might not know that at the last minute, the Department of Defense had decided to retain all the emission reduction credits from George AFB before the installation's transfer to the City of Victorville. The District stepped in and "persuaded" DOD to rethink its decision and allow the credits to stay with the base. This single action resulted in several companies being able to relocate to the High Desert. It also allowed the District to leave the air base flight emissions in our attainment plan, to insure that as the base matures it won't have to seek conformity approvals from the local metropolitan planning authority and compete with L.A. County World Airports for emissions to allow commercial operations. Our reputation as a common-sense, business friendly regulatory agency led to eastern Riverside County and the City of Blythe successfully petitioning to join the MDAQMD in 1994. In 1997, Senator Pete Knight introduced legislation to create the Antelope Valley AQMD, which then contracted for the MDAQMD's services for its operation.

Today as others are wringing their hands over the new challenges of California's go it alone "Global Warming Solutions Act," the newly established 70 ppb 8-hour ozone standard and Environmental Justice issues, I am confident the District will again step up to meet the challenge, even as these new programs seem just as unattainable as the ones we faced in 1991.

Together, we proved that industry and regulators can work together cooperatively and that an air district can be business-friendly and at the same time, protect public health.

As I prepare to leave, I am proud to say we are in a very healthy financial condition. Our fees remain among the lowest. Our reserves are well funded; our building and solar system are paid off. Through careful planning we able to make significant contributions to the ERC registry, taking the District from 0 credits in 1994 to now being the third largest holder of NOx credits in the state.

As I pen this last writing for the Desert Air Monitor, I'm convinced I'm leaving the District in good hands. Our staff is changing, young, and eager for the test. Our industry has never been more united in helping us meet common air quality goals. Our Board is relentless in its mandate to "attain and maintain a healthful environment while supporting strong and sustainable economic growth."

I am proud to have had the opportunity to lead the MDAQMD for the past 10 years and to serve the District's industry and community for the past 24. I want to thank my staff, and especially the Governing Board for the faith they entrusted. Best of all, thank you to you, my friends...and until we meet again."

Permit Activity	
January 2016 – April 2016	
Active Permits	3,929
Permitted Facilities	1,597
Number of Applications	99

Compliance Activity	
January 2016 – April 2016	
Complaints	44
Notices of Violation	12
Certificates of Occupancy	152



Roberts Named Recipient of A&WMA "2016 Exceptional Education Contributor" Award



Violette Roberts

The Air & Waste Management Association has named Violette Roberts the recipient of its "2016 Exceptional Education Contributor" award in recognition of long-term and innovative contributions to educating students, other members of A&WMA, and the community about air quality as an active member of A&WMA. Award evaluation criteria include A&WMA Leadership positions with educational responsibilities and specific initiatives and/or contributions that support A&WMA's educational mission. The Award will be presented during A&WMA's 109th Annual Conference & Exhibition, in New Orleans, Louisiana on June 22th.



Consortium, a public-private partnership which brings together representatives of business, government and the educational community for the purpose of increasing the environmental and STEM literacy of High Desert students; facilitation of numerous teacher workshops for High Desert educators throughout the High Desert using A&WMA's Environmental Resource Guides; training over 200 teachers from Mexico during two Spanish language air quality teacher workshops sponsored by A&WMA in San Diego in 1998 and 2004; and founding the MDAQMD/A&WMA's annual Outstanding Environmental Science Project Awards Program while serving as Education Liaison for A&WMA's Mojave Desert Chapter. Roberts currently serves on the Board of Directors for A&WMA's Mojave Desert Chapter, which nominated her for the award. She also serves as the current Chair of the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association's Public Outreach Committee. Roberts holds a Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential with bilingual emphasis from California State University in Los Angeles and has worked for the MDAQMD since 1987.

Roberts' contributions include serving as Community Relations & Education Manager/Founder of the MDAQMD's award-winning education and outreach program since 1997; Founder/Executive Board Chair of the Mojave Environmental Education

A&WMA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional organization that enhances knowledge and expertise by providing a neutral forum for information exchange, professional development, networking opportunities, public education, and outreach to more than 5,000 environmental professionals in 65 countries.

MDAQMD Welcomes New Hearing Board Members Haggard and Hernandez



Desirea Haggard

Desirea Haggard and David Hernandez were appointed to the MDAQMD's Hearing Board during the February 2016 Governing Board Meeting. Haggard was appointed as the Engineering Member and Hernandez as the Attorney Member. Both were appointed for 3 year terms.

Haggard works for CalPortland Company as an Environmental Manager, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree at University of California, Irvine in Chemical Engineering with a concentration in Environmental Engineering. Haggard also holds an M.S. degree in Chemical

and Environmental Engineering, and has worked in the mining, cement, and construction materials industry for 12 years. She is a Vice President of the Women in Mining (WIM) California Chapter, is on the Board of Directors for the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium (MEEC) and serves as Vice-Chair for the Mojave Chapter of Air and Waste Management Association (A&WMA).

Hernandez received his law degree from Fullerton, California's Western State University College of Law in 1986. The following year, he and partner Mark Schapiro opened the doors of Hernandez & Schapiro, Inc. - Attorneys At Law. Hernandez received a B.S. in Business Administration, Finance & Economics from California State University of Long Beach, CA in



David Hernandez

1982. Hernandez grew up in the High Desert, graduating from Victor Valley High School, and lives in the area with his wife and family.

High Desert Businesses Give MDAQMD High Marks for Customer Service *(Cont'd from pg. 1)*

Several questions on the survey asked for comments, and a sampling is provided below:

- "Inspectors have been approachable, knowledgeable, and reachable."
- "Work well with the staff. The staff is always willing to meet in person to discuss issues."
- "The smoothest permitting for any air district in California. Well done!"
- "AQMD personnel have always demonstrated a high degree of professionalism, knowledge, and interest in helping with issues regarding compliance."



According to Eldon Heaston, MDAQMD Executive Director, "The survey's results will help the District construct a road map for implementing improvements and to continue providing optimum services to the regulated community in the near future."

To find out how doing business within the MDAQMD could be good for your business, call (760) 245-1661 or visit us online at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov today!



Reducing Short-Lived Climate Pollutants in California

What are Short-Lived Climate Pollutants? Short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP) are powerful climate forcers that remain in the atmosphere for a much shorter period of time than longer-lived climate pollutants, such as carbon dioxide (CO₂). Their relative potency, when measured in terms of how they heat the atmosphere, can be tens, hundreds, or even thousands of times greater than that of CO₂. The impacts of short-lived climate pollutants are especially strong over the short term. Reducing these emissions can make an immediate beneficial impact on climate change.

Short-Lived Climate Pollutants include three main components:

- Black carbon is a component of fine particulate matter, which has been identified as a leading environmental risk factor for premature death. It is produced from the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and biomass burning, particularly from older diesel engines and forest fires. Black carbon warms the atmosphere by absorbing solar radiation, influences cloud formation, and darkens the surface of snow and ice, which accelerates heat absorption and melting. Diesel particulate matter emissions are a major source of black carbon and are also toxic air contaminants that have been regulated and controlled in California for several decades in order to protect public health.
- Fluorinated gases (F-gases) are the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions in California and globally. They include ozone-depleting substances that are being phased out globally under the Montreal Protocol, and their primary substitute, hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Most F-gas emissions come from leaks of these gases in refrigeration and air-conditioning systems. Emissions also come from aerosol propellants, fire suppressants, and foam-expansion agents.
- Methane (CH₄) is the principal component of natural gas. Its emissions contribute to background ozone in the lower atmosphere (troposphere), which itself is a powerful greenhouse gas and contributes to ground level air pollution. The atmospheric concentration of methane is growing as a result of human activities in the agricultural, waste treatment, and oil and gas sectors. Capturing methane

from these sources can improve pipeline safety, and provide fuel for vehicles and industrial operations that displaces fossil natural gas use.

What are the Benefits of Reducing SLCPs? The United Nations Environment Program estimates that by 2030, using technologies and strategies available today, we can reduce global emissions of methane by 40 percent, black carbon by 80 percent, and HFC emissions by 80 percent from expected levels. These reductions will deliver immediate and tangible climate, air quality, economic, and health benefits.

Benefits in California

- Improve health in disadvantaged communities.
- Reduce risk for premature death.
- Reduce air pollution-related hospitalizations and associated medical expenses.
- Reduce damage to forests and crops.
- Reduce background ozone levels to help meet federal air quality standards.
- Reduce disruption of rainfall patterns and improve water storage in Sierra snowpack

What is California doing to reduce SLCPs? Over the past several decades, California's actions to improve air quality, fight climate change and protect public health have resulted in significant reductions in emissions of short-lived climate pollutants. ARB is sponsoring several research projects related to short-lived climate pollutants.

- Black carbon - Anthropogenic emissions are 90 percent lower than in the 1960s, and will be cut in half again by 2020.
- F-gases - Regulations adopted under AB 32 will reduce emissions 25 percent by 2020.
- Methane - California has taken steps to reduce emissions from the agricultural, waste treatment, and oil and gas sectors.

To learn more about ARB's SLCP strategy, visit:

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/shortlived/meetings/04112016/proposedstrategy.pdf>

EPA Celebrates Programs, Tools to Prevent Asthma Attacks

Each May during Asthma Awareness Month, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) spotlights ways people can take simple steps to help prevent asthma attacks. EPA also honors local asthma management programs for their leadership in improving the lives of people living with asthma, especially those in underserved communities.

"Asthma is fundamentally connected to the health of our environment – whether it's the air outside, or in our homes," said Administrator Gina McCarthy. "By working together across the environmental, housing, social, and medical sectors, we can do even more to raise awareness about this critical public health issue and protect those who are most vulnerable, including the more than six million children in the U.S. with asthma."

On May 12, EPA honored the winners of the agency's National Environmental Leadership Award in Asthma Management. Each winner is an outstanding national model for comprehensive asthma care. For more information on these winners, go to www.epa.gov/asthma/national-environmental-leadership-award-asthma-management



Asthma is a respiratory disease that makes breathing difficult. Asthma affects nearly 24 million Americans, including more than six million children—with poor and minority children affected disproportionately. The economic impacts of asthma amount to more than \$50 billion per year from direct and indirect costs, such as medical bills and missed school and work days. EPA's comprehensive asthma program helps those with asthma through environmental research and education, as well as through community-focused outreach that aims to increase sustainable access to home visits.

Asthma sufferers can take some important actions to help control their symptoms and still maintain active lifestyles with three simple steps: identify and avoid environmental asthma triggers; create an Asthma Action Plan with help from your doctor; and pay attention to your local air quality conditions through the <http://airnow.gov> website and Air Quality Index app for your smart phone.

To learn more about preventing asthma attacks, go to www.epa.gov/asthma.

Vehicle Buy Back Program Still Offering \$1,000 for Pre-'96 Vehicles



This summer, High Desert residents can earn \$1,000 for scrapping their operable 1995 and older cars, vans and light and medium duty trucks while helping to improve local air quality. Under the District's Voluntary Accelerated Vehicle Retirement Program, eligible vehicles must be driven to a

contracted vehicle dismantler and pass the most recent biennial smog check required by DMV. For a complete set of eligibility requirements, visit the MDAQMD's website at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov or call (800) 717-7624.



2016 Electric Lawn & Garden Equipment Exchange Helps Mow Down Pollution

Residents of the Victor Valley arrived early to trade in their old gas powered mowers and lawn equipment during the newly expanded Lawn & Garden Equipment Exchange, held at the Victorville Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 16, 2016.

This year, the MDAQMD's annual Electric Lawn Mower Exchange event was expanded to include cordless electric blowers and trimmers. The MDAQMD provides an incentive which enables residents to purchase the equipment at a greatly reduced cost over the regular retail price.

Pre-registered residents brought their operable, gasoline-powered lawn mowers, blowers and trimmers – emptied of all gas and oil – and exchanged them for one of two electric lawnmower models: an 18" mower with a 36 volt battery for \$50 (regular price: \$345) or a self-propelled 19" cutting width mower with a 24 volt battery for \$100 (regular price: \$469), and electric string trimmers for \$115 (MSRP:

\$365) and electric blowers for \$85 (MSRP: \$319.) In total, close to 150 pieces of equipment were exchanged from residents of the High Desert, including Helendale and Barstow.



Lawn mowers and other gasoline powered lawn and garden care equipment are the nation's leading source of off-road emissions; one gas mower can pollute as much as 40 newer-model cars. While gas-powered mowers being sold today are 90% cleaner than those sold ten years ago, only electric lawn equipment produces zero-emissions. In 2014 as well as 2015, the MDAQMD exchanged more than 150 mowers during each event. The MDAQMD has tentative plans for an exchange in April of 2017. Residents are encouraged to check our website in early 2017 for updates on the program at: www.mdaqmd.ca.gov.



2016 Solar Competition Heats Up!

More than 60 students and their advisors gathered on Saturday, May 14th at the Victor Valley Museum in Apple Valley to face off in the 4th annual "Solar Cook-Off" Competition. Armed with materials ranging from

The first-place winners for Design were; Daisy Gibson School (Justice League of Super Chefs), Palmdale (4-6); Daisy Gibson School (Darth Cookers), Palmdale (7-9); and Excelsior Charter, (Feel the Bern), Victorville (10-12). Second place winners were Vanguard Prep (Falcons), Apple Valley, (4-6); Vanguard Preparatory (Nuclear Chefs) Apple Valley, (7-9); and Excelsior Charter (Unchartered Chefs), Victorville (10-12). Third place winners included; Desert Knolls Elementary (Solar Eagles), Apple Valley (4-6); Cameron Elementary (Solar Engineers), Barstow (7-9); and Pete Knight High School (SolarHawks), Palmdale (10-12).



2016 Solar Cook-Off Participants

cardboard, plexiglass, aluminum foil to home insulation, fourth- through twelfth-graders from across the High Desert participated in the event. The event was hosted by the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District and the Mojave Environmental Education Consortium, and organizers say it's the only one of its kind in Southern California. Teams of two-to-five students from schools throughout the Victor and Antelope Valleys and Barstow designed and built creative solar cookers and developed original delicious recipes for the Cooker and Recipe competitions.

More than 20 applications were submitted for the event, but last minute team setbacks only allowed for twelve registered teams to arrive early to start preparing their recipes and setup their cookers. Cooking time began promptly at 9:30 am and ended at 2:30 pm. Despite the start of a beautiful calm day, windy conditions appeared by 1:00 pm but most of the teams remained in the competition with only a few of the teams having partial dishes disqualified from their menu for failing to reach acceptable cooking temperatures, as required by San Bernardino County Health & Safety regulations.

During the day-long cooking process, teams were judged on the creativity and design of their solar cookers by a panel of three judges. Carlos Urchurtu of CEMEX, Michelle Zumwalt of the Mojave Desert AQMD, and Tony Malone from Lucerne Valley rounded out the Design judging panel. Three separate judges participated on the Recipe panel, including Kaye Walraven of Liberty Utilities, Austin Fulfer of CEMEX, and Dave Rib of Mitsubishi Cement Corporation. Wally Linn, Field Representative for U.S. Congressman Paul Cook (R-Apple Valley), presented special certificates to each of the teams. Each team present during the award ceremony also received a new solar cooker valued at \$100 each courtesy of Jim La Joie, owner of All Season Solar Cookers.



Excelsior High School team members and their advisor Venessa Smith with their winning cooker.

First place teams in three age groups took home \$250 and \$200 cash prizes.

Winning first-place in the Recipe category as well, Daisy Gibson School (Justice League of Super Chefs), Palmdale (4-6); Daisy Gibson School (Darth Cookers), Vanguard Preparatory (Falcons), Apple Valley (4-6); Cameron Elementary (Solar Engineers), Barstow (7-9); and Excelsior Charter (Feel the Bern), Victorville (10-12). Third place winners George Visual Performing Arts (Sun Goddesses), Adelanto (4-6); Vanguard Preparatory (Nuclear Chefs), Apple Valley (7-9); and Excelsior Charter (Unchartered Chefs), Victorville (10-12).

The annual competition is aimed at helping students sharpen their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) skills while introducing them to zero-emission technologies such as solar cooking.





District to Honor ARB Advisory 247

The MDAQMD will honor the ARB's Advisory 347, as it pertains to enforcement of the upcoming 2017 Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) for Diesel Particulate Matter fleet average emissions standards.

The advisory states that "ARB will not enforce, and is advising the local air districts not to enforce, the 2017 ATCM fleet average emissions standards until the regulatory amendments are effective." All other PERP regulation and ATCM provisions remain in effect including current engine eligibility requirements and provisions requiring all uncertified (Tier 0) equipment to be removed from service no later than January 1, 2017. All local air district permitting requirements for these engines remain in effect. Additional information regarding the Advisory is available at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/advs/advs347.pdf>

District Recognizes Outstanding Environmental Science Projects at Local Schools

This winter, the MDAQMD partnered once again with MEEC and the Mojave Desert Chapter of the Air & Waste Management Association to recognize outstanding environmentally-themed science projects entered in school science fairs held throughout the MDAQMD's jurisdiction. Winners of local competitions received \$25 gift cards, a blue ribbon and a certificate, while winners of District and regional science fairs received \$50 gift cards along with the other amenities. This year, the MDAQMD's Outstanding Environmental Science Project Award was presented at 18 schools Districtwide, including the regional RIMS Inland Science and Engineering Fair.



Elyanna Valdez with her winning science fair project from Lenwood Elementary in Barstow.

A&WMA's Mojave Desert Chapter Members Take Part in Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Mitsubishi Cement

Mitsubishi Cement in Lucerne Valley hosted a facility tour for the Mojave Desert Chapter of A&WMA on May 25th to showcase their implementation measures to comply with 40 CFR 63 Subpart LLL - National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants from the Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry (LLL NESHAP).



Alan De Salvio, Deputy - Mojave Desert Operations, cuts the ribbon during the ceremony as Dave Rib, Environmental Manager, Mitsubishi Cement, looks on.

Amended in 2013, the LLL NESHAP retains the stack emission standards for mercury, hydrogen chloride (HCl), and total hydrocarbons (THC), and amends the stack emission standard for particulate matter (PM), conforming the NESHAP with the NSPS for PM. The LLL NESHAP amendment also includes provisions which account for HAP emissions from coal mills, establishing a continuous monitoring regime for parametric monitoring of PM, sets work practice standards for startup and shutdown, and revises the compliance date for the PM, mercury, HCl, THC and clinker storage pile that are existing source standards under the NESHAP.

2016 Clean Air Poster Contest Winners Recognized

"Care For the Air We Share" was the theme of the MDAQMD's 20th Annual Clean Air Month Poster Contest. The competition drew more than 300 entries from fledgling artists throughout the MDAQMD's jurisdiction, which encompasses the High Desert portion of San Bernardino County and Riverside County's Palo Verde Valley.

Twelve winners were selected in four grade categories – K-2; 3-5; 6-8; and 9-12. During an awards ceremony held at the MDAQMD on June 1st, winners received gift cards ranging in denomination from \$25 to \$100, depending on place awarded. Teachers whose students were selected as contest winners were also recognized for encouraging their participation. Each winning poster and its artist will be featured in the MDAQMD's annual calendar.

The contest was co-sponsored by the Daily Press, the Air & Waste Management Association's Mojave Desert Chapter and Victor Valley Transit Authority, which also awarded bicycles to two contest participants, whose names were drawn at random from all entries received.

The MDAQMD's annual poster contest is held each May as a vehicle for raising awareness amongst High Desert youngsters about the pivotal role individual actions and choices play in protecting air quality.



Pictured left to right, bottom row, are: Heidi Basurto, 2nd Place, 3-5, George Visual Arts, Adelanto; Amaris Sanderfer, 1st Place, K-2, Mariana Academy, Apple Valley; Guadalupe Rodas, 1st Place, 3-5, George Visual Arts, Adelanto; Rylee Nino, 2nd Place, K-2, Mariana Academy, Apple Valley; Angelina Soupene, 3rd Place, K-2, Mariana Academy, Apple Valley; Rebecca Garcia, 1st Place, 9-12, Riverside Preparatory, Oro Grande; Riley Baker, 2nd Place, 9-12, Granite Hills High School, Apple Valley.

Pictured left to right, top row, are: Angie Callahan, Daily Press; Audrey Barnhart, 1st Place, 6-8, Riverside Preparatory, Oro Grande; Patricia Pimentel, 2nd Place, 6-8, Hesperia Junior High School, Hesperia; Samantha Hernandez, 3rd Place, 6-8, Hesperia Junior High School, Hesperia; Roseana Navarro-Brasington, Mojave Desert AQMD.

SMOG SEASON IS HERE: SIGN UP TO GET DAILY AUTOMATED ENVIROFLASH ALERTS

With more than one way to receive daily air quality updates...what are you waiting for? Sign up today! EnviroFlash alerts are even available straight to your Twitter account!



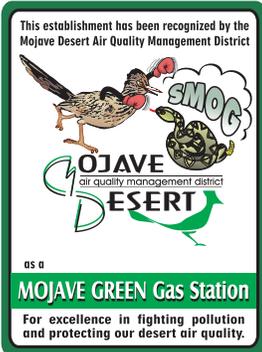
EnviroFlash provides residents with e-mail and cell phone notifications using Air Quality Index (AQI) forecasts for any of six cities where the MDAQMD maintains air monitoring stations.

Subscribers can choose to receive daily alerts or be notified only when air quality levels become unhealthy. EnviroFlash also provides special alerts during exceptional air quality events, such as wildfires and high wind episodes.

To receive EnviroFlash alerts delivered to your e-mail, cell phone, or Twitter account, go to <http://mdaqmd.enviroflash.org> and follow the directions to sign up.



Mojave Green Gas Station Program Recognizes Outstanding Fueling Sites



The Mojave Green Gas Station Program is a positive-incentive program aimed at recognizing gas stations that work proactively to prevent air pollution at their establishments. Fueling stations which pass their annual air quality inspections error-free and have logged no violations over the past year are eligible to be named Mojave Green Gas Stations.



The MDAQMD is committed to helping small businesses such as fueling stations identify solutions to source reductions through educational and technical assistance. A variety of free compliance services, including on-site technical consultations are available through the District.

The MDAQMD recently redesigned its program decal, which is awarded to stations which meet program criteria. Qualified stations also receive a congratulatory letter from the MDAQMD Executive Director, camera-ready access to the Mojave Green decal for use in their ads and documents, and a listing in the MDAQMD's online Mojave Green Gas Station directory. For more information on the program, call (760) 245-1661 extension 6104.

COMPLIANCE CORNER

Spotlight on Rule 430 - Breakdown Provisions

By Michelle Zumwalt, Air Quality Specialist, Compliance

Our goal at the District is to work with industry to maintain compliance with all applicable rules and regulations. We also realize that things happen, and that equipment can breakdown. In order to protect against potential enforcement actions, we have a breakdown provision in place.

A breakdown is an emissions exceedance from District permitted equipment or a process that is caused by a sudden and reasonably unforeseeable event/incident that is beyond the operator's control. When a breakdown happens, it must be reported to the District within an hour of the occurrence. The report should include:

- Date and time of breakdown.
- An estimate of repair time.
- All measures taken to minimize emissions and to correct the problem.

Equipment can continue to operate until the end of its cycle, or 24 hours, whichever comes first - at which time it must be shut down for repairs. The only way to avoid shutting down would be to file an emergency variance with the Clerk of the Hearing Board before the 24 hour clock ends. Continuing to operate equipment that is in excess of emissions limits, without a variance, can result in a Notice of Violation (NOV). Verification of the breakdown must be provided to the District within 60 days of the initial notice of breakdown. This report should include:

- Date and time of the breakdown.
- The cause of the breakdown.
- Date and time that the emissions exceedance stopped, either through shut down or repairs.
- Equipment logs verifying that the equipment was properly maintained and operated at the time of the breakdown.
- Documentation that the operator took all reasonable steps to minimize emissions and to correct the condition that led to the breakdown.

Breakdowns and verification reports may be submitted to the District using the following methods:

- Email - breakdowns@mdaqmd.ca.gov (preferred method)
- Breakdown Hotline - (760) 493-3500
- Mail/Hand Deliver to District Offices at 14306 Park Ave, Victorville, CA 92392
- Fax - (760) 245-2022

It is important to report all breakdowns. If the District finds an emissions exceedance associated with a breakdown, and the event has not been reported, a NOV may be issued.

For more information please visit our website www.mdaqmd.ca.gov to review District Rule 430 - Breakdown Provisions, or call Alan De Salvio, Deputy Director of Operations, at (760) 245-1661 x 6726.

2015-2016 Exemplar Award Nominations Sought

Help us recognize those who have made great strides towards cleaner air!



Nominations for the 19th annual Exemplar air quality achievement award are now being accepted by the MDAQMD.

The Exemplar Award recognizes businesses, industry, schools, agencies, organizations and individuals which have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the development of voluntary activities/projects that reduce or prevent air pollution in High Desert communities located within the MDAQMD's jurisdiction, which includes the High Desert portion of San Bernardino County and the Palo Verde Valley of Riverside County.

The Exemplar Award will be presented in association with Pollution Prevention Week - September 19 - 25, 2016. For complete eligibility requirements or to obtain an Exemplar nomination packet, visit the District's website at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov.

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 31, 2016.



SUMMER ROAD TRIP CHECKLIST

Here's a list of steps that High Desert residents can take to make their summer travels hassle-free and more enjoyable, while saving money and reducing emissions:

Saving gas saves you money and helps the environment!

- ✓ Refuel when it's cool.
- ✓ Don't top off your tank.
- ✓ Don't let your car idle.
- ✓ Don't sit in traffic! Travel at times other than rush hour, if possible.
- ✓ Avoid long lines at drive-through windows.
- ✓ Avoid "jackrabbit" starts and "lead-foot" stops.
- ✓ Try sharing a ride or taking public transportation when you can.



Treat your car well and it will take care of you and the air you breathe!

- ✓ Keep your tires inflated to the recommended level.
- ✓ Get regular tune-ups.
- ✓ Make sure your gas cap closes tightly - replace it if it's old.
- ✓ Keep your air filter clean.
- ✓ Change the oil regularly, as recommended in your owner's manual.
- ✓ Make sure your car's converter is hooked up and working properly.

More information can be found at the "It All Adds Up To Cleaner Air" website at <http://www.italladdsup.gov>.

www.mdaqmd.ca.gov

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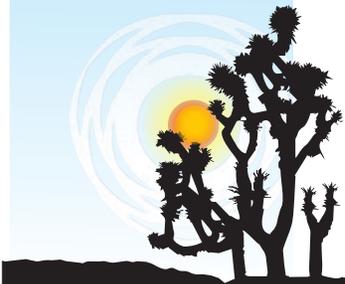
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2016 CDAWG: November 16 & 17 ★ Save the Date! ★

Conference Theme:

**Beating the
Odds in
Today's
Regulatory
Environment**

We are proud to announce that the next California Desert Air Working Group Conference will be held at the Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada!

Speaker Line-Up and Topics TBA

Why CDAWG? CDAWG conferences are designed to appeal to anyone interested in obtaining technical information and training on timely, relevant air quality and regulatory issues. Whether you are an environmental professional, or simply interested in top-notch professional development, CDAWG has something for YOU!

Room reservations now available by calling 1-800-675-3267. Mention Group Name "CDAWG – Mojave Environmental Education Consortium" or Reservation ID A6CDL11 for a special group rate of only \$40.00 per night plus Resort Fee & tax, available only through October 15.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend! Meeting and registration information to be mailed out soon. Also check our website at www.mdaqmd.ca.gov for the latest information! Call (760) 245-1661, ext. 6104 for more information, and watch your snail mail and email for conference brochure!

Register Today!



**THE DAWG
IS BACK!**

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**
Don't Miss Out!

