



AIR CURRENTS

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

New Air Toxics Report Shows Drop in Cancer Risk

The latest Bay Area Air Quality Management District *Toxic Air Contaminant Report* shows a 40 percent decline over the last five years in health risks from carcinogenic substances that are routinely measured in the ambient air.

Of greatest significance are reductions of 50 percent in average benzene levels, and 40 percent in average 1,3-butadiene levels. Both of these compounds are products of internal combustion engines. Their reduction is primarily due to the use of reformulated gasoline. Air District efforts to reduce toxic air contaminants from industrial and commercial sources have also led to a substantial decrease over the last seven years.

The Air District has managed a program for the evaluation of toxic air contami-

nants since 1987. In addition to monitoring the overall levels of toxic compounds in the air, the Air District has evaluated the health risks associated with air emissions from specific industrial and commercial facilities under the Air Toxics "Hot Spots" Program. Under this program, the Air District inventories the amount of various toxic substances emitted from facilities and performs health risk assessments to estimate cancer risk and the potential for other adverse health effects.

Cancer risks are calculated by examining the toxicity and concentration of various substances and the related population exposure over a 70-year lifetime. The Air District requires facilities to notify surrounding communities if their maximum cancer risk from the facility's emissions exceeds 10 in a million. By

comparison, an individual's overall risk of contracting cancer during the course of his or her lifetime is already nearly 1 in 3, or 333,000 in a million.

In 1991, the first year of the risk assessment phase of the "Hot Spots" Program, 30 facilities in the Bay Area were identified with cancer risks requiring public notification. An aggressive toxic reduction plan was implemented in 1991, and today only one industrial facility in the Bay Area requires public notification, with a maximum risk of 14 in a million.

Since the start of its air toxics program, the Air District has adopted many regulations directed at reducing public exposure. Most recently, risk reduction measures have been implemented for all dry cleaners. This has resulted in reduced exposure to perchloroethylene, a suspected human carcinogen, for those living or working near one of the nearly 1,000 dry cleaning facilities in the Bay Area.

Spare the Air 2000 Gets Underway

This year's *Spare the Air* campaign kicked off early, as a surprise hot spell in May led to several exceedences of the federal and State ozone standards. The *Spare the Air* campaign alerts Bay Area residents on days when air quality is expected to exceed federal health standards and asks that the public reduce or postpone activities that pollute, including:

- Driving
- Using gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment, like lawn mowers and leaf blowers
- Using consumer products that pollute, like hair sprays and barbecue lighter fluid

· Using gasoline-powered motor boats

Cumulatively these activities produce almost 225 tons per day of volatile organic compounds and 170 tons per day of oxides of nitrogen, the two ingredients that react in strong sunlight to form ground-level ozone.

The goal of the *Spare the Air* campaign is to reduce polluting activities and lower the number of excesses of air quality standards. As it enters its 10th summer, the *Spare the Air* program will be larger and more visible than in earlier years, due, in part, to a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant obtained through the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

"As the first air district in the state to implement a toxic air contaminant reduction plan in 1991, we are proud that our efforts have produced such dramatic results, and we will continue to protect the health of Bay Area residents," the Air District's Executive Officer Ellen Garvey said.

The new 1998 Air Toxics Report may be found on the Air District's website: www.baaqmd.gov.

—Lucia Libretti



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

Air District Adopts New Look

The Air District started the 21st century with a brand new look—a new logo.

Why change the Air District's identity? Several reasons. The original 1955 logo was designed well before xerox and fax machines became prevalent, and it didn't reproduce well through these devices. A map-style logo was introduced about ten years ago, but it wasn't easily discernable from a distance—especially on cars or billboards. Also, the Air District's Transportation Fund for Clean Air program had its own distinct logo and needed a new one that could be used on all sizes of sponsored projects, from bike racks to buses.

"The need for one logo/identity was quite evident," stated Executive Officer Ellen Garvey. "I think we have a new, modern logo to complement the spirit of our clean air program," Garvey added.

An award-winning San Francisco designer, Earl Gee of *Gee+ Chung Design*, was selected to craft the Air District's new logo, because of his identity experience with national and international clients such as Apple Computer, Disney, IBM, Lucasfilm and Sony Electronics.

The project involved many phases—from questionnaires to mission statements—before the creative work could begin. There were many iterations and refinements of the designs submitted to an internal review committee. Then the designs were presented to the Public Outreach Steering Committee of the Air District's Board of Directors for final approval.

"Because air is something you cannot see, or rather *shouldn't* see," designer Earl Gee said with a smile, "we thought an abstract design was the best way to go. We wanted to convey the movement of air, and a design resembling a flag did this, without it actually being a flag."

People see different things in the logo. The "flags" and the space around them add up to nine—the same number of counties in the Air District's jurisdiction. And the blue and white color scheme is naturally indicative of clean air.

For the record, the color is *Pantone 2727* with a 50-percent screen of the "wedge" on the right side of the "banners." The type font is *Trajan* and was selected for the text because of its unique stylized letter "Q."

(Lastly, as you may have noticed, we've changed the *Air Currents* color scheme to match the new logo.)

—Lucia Libretti

Spare the Air

continued from front page

What's New?

Look, listen, and read about *Spare the Air* days from mid-June through mid-October. You'll be able to get daily Air Quality Index (AQI) readings in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and other daily papers, on our website at www.sparetheair.org, by phone at (800) HELP AIR, or by e-mail.

Register for e-mail notification of *Spare the Air* days, so we can alert you at your terminal, at home or at work—or preferably both, since many *Spare the Air* days occur on weekends. To register, go to the www.sparetheair.org web page and give us your e-mail address. Knowing when air quality is expected to be poor is important to us all, but especially to children, athletes, and those who have asthma or emphysema.

Ozone Movies - 12 Hours a Day

Log on to the www.sparetheair.org website and see real time ozone "movies" that track pollution readings from 22 air monitoring stations every hour. This service gives localized, animated air pollution information throughout the day. The movies will also be archived each day throughout the summer.

Employer Network 2000

Join over 1,200 Bay Area employers and become a member of our *Spare the Air* employer network. We'll give you a starter kit and free materials to run the program at your worksite. When a *Spare the Air* day is predicted, we'll send you a fax so you can pass the information on to your employees. An electronic employer *Spare the Air* tool kit is available on the website with downloadable materials for your program. To receive a tool kit, call Judi Goldblatt at RIDES at 1-800-755-7665.

—Teresa Lee

TFCA GRANTS

The Air District is currently accepting applications for Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA) grants for fiscal year 2000/2001. At least \$8 million will be available for distribution by the Air District this year.

TFCA grants fund transportation projects that reduce motor vehicle emissions, consistent with the 1988 California Clean Air Act and the *Bay Area Clean Air Plan*. Only *public* agencies are eligible to receive TFCA grants. These include cities, counties, school districts, transit districts, and regional and state agencies.

Public agencies should apply directly to the Air District for funding. Funding for natural gas and electric vehicles under 10,000 pounds is available through our Vehicle Incentive Program. Funding for electric vehicle charging stations is available under our "CHARGE!" program.

Applications are evaluated, scored, and ranked using evaluation criteria approved by the Air District's Board of Directors and are funded in the order of ranking.

The application form is available electronically via **e-mail** at **tfca@baaqmd.gov**, or it can be **downloaded from our website** at **www.baaqmd.gov/planning/plntrns/tfcapage.htm**. You can also call (415) 749-4994 to request an application form and related information.

The application deadline is 5:00 PM Wednesday, June 30, 2000. Please mail or hand-deliver your applications; they will **not** be accepted by fax or e-mail.



Now You Can Report Smoking Vehicles On-Line

The Smoking Vehicle Program's spring advertising campaign introduces the latest method for reporting smoking vehicles—over the internet. Now, you can make a report directly via the District's website: **www.baaqmd.gov/exhaust**. Although the 1-800-EXHAUST number is still going strong, our new on-line service provides another convenient way to report those *exhausting* vehicles.

Three New Members Join Board

This spring, three new members were appointed to the Air District's Board of Directors.

Mayor Shelia Young of San Leandro was sworn in at the March 29 Executive Committee meeting, replacing Ben Tarver as a representative of Alameda County. She was elected to the San Leandro City Council in 1996, and then ran successfully for Mayor in 1998. During her business career, she worked as a small business advocate and served two terms with the US Small Business Administration Region IX Advisory Board, and the Small Business Committee of the State Chamber of Commerce. An active member of several national organizations, she also currently serves on the State Congestion Management Agency, the Alameda County Waste Management Authority, and the Alameda County Transportation Authority.

Mayor Roberta Cooper of Hayward was sworn in at the April 19 Board Meeting, replacing Greg Harper as a representative of Alameda County. She is in her second term as Mayor of Hayward, having served two prior terms on the Hayward City Council. Mayor Cooper served more than 25 years as a teacher in the Hayward School District, and during that time was actively involved in a number of civic and community service organizations. She is a past and present member of a number of regional boards and councils, including the League of California Cities, the Association of Bay Area Governments, and the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, among others.

Vice-Mayor and Councilmember Mark Ross of Martinez was sworn in at the April 19 Board Meeting. He replaces Paul Cooper as a representative of Contra Costa County. Councilmember Ross has a degree in English Literature from the University of California at Berkeley, and has worked as a petroleum surveyor and real estate broker. He currently serves on a number of regional boards, including TRANSPAC, and is an alternate to both the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority.



PUBLIC HEARINGS

Published bimonthly
B.A.A.Q.M.D.
939 Ellis Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Board of Directors

Michael D. Nevin
Chairperson
San Mateo County
Randy Attaway
Vice Chairperson
Santa Clara County
William Carroll
Secretary
Solano County

Amos Brown
San Francisco County
Harold C. Brown, Jr.
Marin County
Roberta Cooper
Alameda County
Mark DeSaulnier
Contra Costa County
Don Gage
Santa Clara County
Scott Haggerty
Alameda County
Mary King
Alameda County
Julia Miller
Santa Clara County
Dena Mossar
Santa Clara County
Mark A. Ross
Contra Costa County
Tim Smith
Sonoma County
Pamela Torliatt
Sonoma County
Marland Townsend
San Mateo County
Gayle Uilkema
Contra Costa County
Brad Wagenknecht
Napa County
Michael Yaki
San Francisco County
Shelia Young
Alameda County

GENERAL BUSINESS / FAX
415-771-6000 / 415-928-8560
WEBSITE: www.baaqmd.gov

Newsletter Production

Teresa Lee, Director of
Public Information

Aaron Richardson, Editor

Wednesday, July 5

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:30 AM in the 7th floor Conference Room, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, to consider the **Air District's budget for FY 2000-2001**. This is the second of two hearings on the budget.

Wednesday, July 19

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 9:30 AM in the 7th floor Conference Room, 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, to consider amendments to:

Regulation 3, Fees, Schedule L: Asbestos Operations and Regulation 3, Fees, Schedule Q: Aeration of Contaminated Soil and Removal of Underground Storage Tanks. For these non-permitted sources, the proposed amendments add a cost of living fee increase of 4.3 percent.

BAAQMD ACTIVITIES

ENFORCEMENT	FEB	MAR
Total Inspections	566	1,055
Complaints Processed	184	304
Violation Notices	132	152

LEGAL	FEB	MAR
Cases Resolved	134	175
Mutual Settlement	\$ 72,174	\$102,460
Civil Penalties	\$ 0	\$620,000

PERMIT SERVICES	FEB	MAR
Authorities to Construct Granted	35	36
Permits to Operate Granted	120	105

TECHNICAL	FEB	MAR
Highest Ozone AQI	38	41
Highest CO AQI	40	26
Highest Particulates AQI	28	31
State Excess Days	0	0
Source Tests	64	79

Pollutant values are expressed according to the Air Quality Index Scale: 0-50 Good; 51-100 Moderate; 101-150 Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups; 151- 200 Unhealthy; 201-300 Very Unhealthy; Over-300 Hazardous.

The District issues "Spare the Air Tonight" requests when air quality forecasts predict that concentrations of CO or particulates will exceed the national health standard.

YEAR TO DATE (04/30/00)	
State Ozone Violations	0
Federal Ozone Violations (8-Hour)	0
Carbon Monoxide Violations	0

DAILY AIR QUALITY COMPLAINT LINE	1-800-HELP AIR
SMOKING VEHICLES	1-800-334-ODOR
	1-800-EXHAUST