South Coast Air Quality Management District has launched the nation’s first fully featured smart-phone application for a wide range of air quality information.

The free application, designed for the iPhone™, iPad, and iPod Touch®, features real-time and forecasted air quality levels for user-selected areas; a core program with featured speakers; a vehicle parade; and special musical guests.

The Expo Hall will feature five focus areas with displays and information on:
- vocational trade schools/organizations
- college/university information and recruiters
- summer internship programs offered by various local organizations
- alternative fuel/energy technologies including vehicle displays
- green jobs and training provided by trade organizations, government agencies, and environmental organizations

The conference core program is scheduled from noon to 1:30 p.m. and will include an Advanced Vehicle Showcase with the latest electric, hybrid, natural gas and other clean vehicles on display.

The event is free and open to all high schools in SCAQMD’s four-county jurisdiction. Science and environmental studies teachers are encouraged to attend with their students. SCAQMD will provide lunch for students and teachers and will reimburse schools for the cost of transportation to the conference and for substitute teachers. Pre-registration is required and no on-site registration will be provided.

For more details about SCAQMD’s “A World We Can Change” Clean Air Conference & Expo, visit www.aqmd.gov or send an e-mail to aworldwecanchange@aqmd.gov.
CAQMD recognizes the current economic challenges that face small businesses and local governments. As such, the SCAQMD Governing Board adopted a permit penalty holiday that allows government agencies and business owners an opportunity to come into compliance without incurring penalties and late fees that could have some financial impact on their operations.

This temporary permit application penalty holiday started on February 5, 2010 and will run through August 4, 2010.

For more information, call SCAQMD’s Permit Application Fee Holiday Hotline at (909) 396-3385, or send an email to permit_amnesty@aqmd.gov.

In April, the first public draft of the SCAQMD Clean Communities Plan was released for public review. The 2010 Draft Clean Communities Plan, formerly known as the Air Toxics Control Plan, is the result of a collaborative effort by SCAQMD staff with input from community representatives, business representatives, local government officials, and partnering government agencies.

The draft plan builds from the existing traditional regulatory approaches and incorporates new implementation approaches to address cumulative air toxics exposure in communities and neighborhoods throughout the region. The 2010 draft plan utilizes a variety of implementation approaches and tools to address exposure to air toxics at the community level and develop solutions. It is an “action” plan that identifies activities for the public, community representatives, agencies, elected officials, and regulated industries to help address air quality issues in their neighborhoods and work together to develop solutions.

The Clean Communities Plan working group, which was formed in 2008, has been reconvened to further discuss and to receive additional input on the draft plan. Members include representatives from communities, environmental group, industry, SCAQMD, and other government agencies.

Comments and/or questions regarding the draft Clean Communities Plan may be directed to 2010CCP@aqmd.gov. The draft plan is expected to be presented to the SCAQMD Governing Board for approval later this year.

For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at (909) 396-3105 or snakamura@aqmd.gov.

Nominations are open for the 22nd Annual Clean Air Awards. SCAQMD encourages everyone to submit nominations to recognize those who have made significant contributions to improve air quality in the South Coast Basin through innovation, leadership and personal environmental commitment. Individuals, large and small businesses, local government, educational institutions, non-profit organizations and community groups are among those eligible. The Clean Air Award winners will be honored on October 1, 2010. Nominations may be made by an individual or organization, and must be postmarked by Friday, July 9.

The Clean Air Award categories are:

- Advancement of Air Pollution Control Technology
- Innovative Transportation Projects
- Model Community Achievement
- Public Education on Air Quality Issues
- Promotion of Good Environmental Stewardship

The nomination form is available on the SCAQMD website at www.aqmd.gov.

For more information, contact Marc Carrel at (909) 396-3213 or mcarrel@aqmd.gov.
A new fuel economy standard has been approved that will require a combined average of 35.5 miles per gallon for all new vehicles sold in the United States by 2016. This standard is expected to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by nearly one billion metric tons, equivalent to removing 50 million cars and trucks off the road in 2030.

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The United States Department of Transportation and the United States Environmental Protection Agency jointly developed new tailpipe rules which set emissions and mileage standards that would translate to a combined fuel economy average for new vehicles of 35.5 miles per gallon by 2016. The standards are predicted to add about $1,000 to the cost of an average new car in 2016, but save about $3,000 in fuel over the life of the vehicle. The new vehicle rules are also expected to stimulate the development of new automotive technologies.

The new fuel economy standards will result in a single national standard based on California’s 2004 tough auto emissions law. As a result, automakers will have a national plan that does not require them to build different vehicles for different markets to comply with varying state laws.

The rule sets different mileage and emissions standards for different sizes of vehicles, and major manufacturers will have to meet increasingly stringent standards over the 2012-16 period. Automakers are already improving mileage and reducing emissions with existing technology like smaller, cleaner-burning engines, lighter-weight components, more efficient air-conditioners and seven and eight-speed automatic transmissions. They are also introducing all-electric zero-emission vehicles.

The estimated five-year compliance cost of $52 billion is far outweighed by the approximately $240 billion in cost benefits from fuel savings, pollution reduction and reduced oil imports.

For more information, contact Philip Crabbe at (909) 396-2632 or pcrabbe@aqmd.gov.
First Reforestation Project for Station Fire Area of Angeles National Forest Approved by SCAQMD

Marking the first significant effort to rehabilitate vast tracts of forest devastated by the Station Fire, SCAQMD recently approved $1.5 million to plant some 560,000 trees in about 1,800 acres in the Angeles National Forest. The reforestation effort will reduce 280,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions over 100 years.

“Due to the devastation of the recent fires, human intervention is needed to rehabilitate our local forest,” said William A. Burke, Ed.D., chairman of SCAQMD’s Governing Board. “This project will help speed forest recovery and provide meaningful greenhouse gas and air quality benefits.”

Funding for the project comes from Chevron, which contributed $1.5 million to SCAQMD to mitigate carbon dioxide emissions resulting from an expansion of its El Segundo refinery. Chevron’s project is the first in the region where greenhouse gas emission reductions were required as part of an environmental analysis.

During the Station Fire, a total of 162,000 acres burned, including 32,000 acres of forested land. About 11,000 acres of forested land need reforestation because the fire was so intense that it destroyed all seeds. The reforestation project will last approximately one year beginning with seed collection this spring, followed by 12 months of growth in a nursery and concluding with re-planting of seedlings in late spring 2011. SCAQMD will contract with the non-profit National Forest Foundation of Missoula, Montana for the reforestation project.

All greenhouse gas reductions developed through the reforestation project will be verified and will be retired as mitigation for greenhouse gas emissions related to the Chevron project.

For more information, contact Aaron Katzenstein at (909) 396-2219 or akatzenstein@aqmd.gov.

SCAQMD Participates in Earth Day Events Throughout the Region

Each year, SCAQMD staff participates in a number of Earth Day events in the four-county SCAQMD region. Even though April 22 is the day universally recognized as Earth Day, events occurred throughout the month of April. The following is a list of some of these events:

- Arleta High School Earth Day
- Chino Basin Water District Earth Day
- South Bay Earth Day
- Claremont Earth Day
- Earth Day Glendora Plaza
- Earth Day Fox Plaza, Century City
- Raytheon Earth Day, El Segundo
- Boeing Earth Day, Seal Beach
- Chino Creek Wetlands Earth Day
- San Juan Capistrano Earth Day
- 3rd Annual Sustainability Awareness Fair, Seal Beach
- Earth Day at the Park, Carson
- Earth Night in the Garden, Riverside
- City of Palm Springs Earth Day
- 40th Annual Earth Day Celebration, Northridge
- Earth Day on the Mountain, Lake Arrowhead
- Earth Festival 2010, Riverside
- Earth Day Town Hall, Monterey Park

For more information, contact Alan Caldwell at (909) 396-3327 or acaldwell@aqmd.gov.

Bike-to-Work Day Celebrated on May 20

Bike-to-Work Day is an annual event celebrated during the month of May across the United States and Canada. Begun in 1956, Bike-to-Work Day is designed to promote bicycling as an option for commuting to work.

Leading up to Bike-to-Work Day, national, regional and local bicycle advocacy groups encourage commuters to cycle as a healthy and safe alternative to driving a conventional gas-operated automobile.

SCAQMD, which will celebrate Bike-to-Work Day on May 20, embraces the “bike buddy” theme which is designed to encourage SCAQMD employees to team up with a buddy or group of buddies and cycle to work together on that day.

Here are a few bicycle safety tips:

- Ride on the right side of the road.
- Wear appropriate safety gear.
- Obey all safety rules.
- When you intend to change lanes or to move laterally on the roadway, yield to traffic in the new lane or line of travel, then look in both directions.
- Ride in a straight line, signal all turns and lane changes.
- Be predictable and be courteous.
- When approaching an intersection, position yourself on the right near the curb if turning right; on the left near the center line if turning left and between those two positions to keep straight.
- Slower riders should ride closer to the curb.
- Wear bright clothing and ride in or near the traffic lanes where automobile drivers will see you.
- Carry a small first aid kit for emergencies.

For more information, contact Elyvonne Drummonds (909) 396-3287, or esells@aqmd.gov.
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DID YOU KNOW?

.. you can cut water use by installing faucet aerators, low-flow showerheads and low-flush toilets? As much as 19% of California’s electricity is used to pump, transport and treat water. Turn your water heater down to 120° or the “Normal” setting when home, and to the lowest setting when away. Water heating accounts for about 13% of home energy costs. Also, wash clothes in cold water. About 90% of the energy used in a clothes washer goes to water heating.

Two New Staff Join SCAQMD Executive Team

Due to the retirements of longtime SCAQMD senior staff, two new executive staff members have joined SCAQMD.

Mike O’Kelly became Chief Financial Officer on April 1. Mike comes to SCAQMD from the San Bernardino County Employee Retirement Association (SBCERA) where he served as the Chief of Fiscal Services since 2006. Prior to his appointment at SBCERA, Mike was Finance Officer for the San Bernardino County Treasurer-Tax Collector. Mike has a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and a master’s degree in Public Administration from Cal State San Bernardino. He is also a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Government Auditing Professional.

On April 19, Bill Johnson returned to SCAQMD and became the new Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, Administrative and Human Resources. Since leaving SCAQMD in 2005, Bill earned a certificate in human resources management and served as Deputy Human Resources Manager for the City of Thousand Oaks and Human Resources Director for the City of Pomona. Bill has a bachelor’s degree in Biology from the University of California, Irvine, and a master’s degree in Public Administration from California State University, San Bernardino.

Ask the SCAQMD Advisor...

Question:

Where can I get updates on the health effects of air pollution?

Answer:

You can sign up on the SCAQMD website - www.aqmd.gov. In the upper right hand corner of the home page, look for “Get Health Effects Info.” Fill in your e-mail address and zip code and click “sign up.” This free service will provide you with periodic updates on health studies and other information.

Climate Change Forum to Be Held This Summer

The California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), will be hosting a Climate Change Forum on August 30-31, 2010 in San Francisco. The two-day conference will focus on the coordination and integration of California climate policy with federal programs to foster the development of effective strategies in the fight against climate change.

The Forum will bring together distinguished national, state, and local leaders to share their perspectives for advancing climate change programs, addressing key issues and questions, and expressing their views for what the future holds. In addition, breakout sessions will bring noted panelists of interest to business and industry, governmental officials, science, academia, and community groups.

This conference will be co-hosted by the California Air Resources Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, in partnership with the South Coast Air Quality Management District, San Diego County Air Pollution Control District, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, and San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District.

Recent events, regulations, and proposed and existing legislation will form the backdrop for the Forum. These include:

• Copenhagen and the 15th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP15)
• Implementation of California’s AB 32 Climate Change Law
• Discussion on the California Climate Adaptation Strategy
• American Clean Energy & Security Act of 2009
• Low Carbon Fuel Standards
• Federal Regulatory Action under the Clean Air Act

The conference will feature general sessions, breakout sessions, networking events and a tradeshow.

For more information, call (800) 993-0302 or visit www.capcoaclimateforum.com.

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The following proposed and amended rules and regulations are tentatively scheduled for hearing at upcoming Governing Board meetings. To verify whether scheduling changes have occurred, visit the SCAQMD Web site at www.aqmd.gov/hb/gb_cal95.html and check the Rule and Control Measure item on the Governing Board meeting agenda or call the Clerk of the Board’s Office at (909) 396-2500.

Copies of SCAQMD rules and regulations can be downloaded from the Web site at www.aqmd.gov/rules/rules.html or provided by SCAQMD’s Public Information Center, (909) 396-2039.

June

Reg. XXVII - Climate Change
Additional protocols will be added, and an updated version of the protocol for forest management will be referenced. A bank for greenhouse gas reductions will be proposed for Rule 2702 reductions.
For more information, contact Jill Whynot at (909) 396-3104, or jwhynot@aqmd.gov.

Rule 1193 - Clean On-Road Residential and Commercial Refuse Collection Vehicles
Amendments to Rule 1193 are being scheduled for purposes of improving the implementation of Rule 1193 and clarifying the requirements of private fleets as they operate under exclusive contracts with public entities based on recent U.S. Supreme Court and appellate court decisions.
For more information, contact Dean Saito at (909) 396-2647, or dsaito@aqmd.gov.

Rule 1420.1 - Emissions Standards for Lead from Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Facilities
Proposed Rule 1420.1 seeks to further reduce lead emissions from lead-acid battery recycling facilities that emit more than 100 pounds of lead annually. The proposed rule will incorporate the 2008 National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Lead along with additional requirements for lead emissions controls, housekeeping, and monitoring.
For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at (909) 396-3105, or snakamura@aqmd.gov.

July

Rule 1401 - New Source Review of Toxic Air Contaminants
Rule 1402 - Control of Toxic Air Contaminants from Existing Sources
The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHHA) periodically reviews the list of toxic compounds and revises or establishes risk values. Rules 1401 and 1402 will be amended to revise the list of Toxic Air Contaminants. In addition, other administrative changes may be proposed.
For more information, contact Susan Nakamura at (909) 396-3105, or snakamura@aqmd.gov.

Reg. XX - REgional CLean Air Incentives Market (RECLAIM)
Proposed amendments will implement best available retrofit control technology (BARCT Standards) for RECLAIM SOx emission sources.
For more information, contact Joe Cassmassi at (909) 396-3155, or jcassmassi@aqmd.gov.
Ian MacMillan has only been at SCAQMD since January 2010, but he has already made a positive impact. He was recently called upon to provide a detailed presentation to help local residents at a town hall meeting to better understand some of the air quality issues related to a proposed quarry project.

Ian is the Program Supervisor for California Environmental Quality Act intergovernmental review in the Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources Division at SCAQMD. His duties include reviewing all air quality analyses for development projects within the South Coast basin. He regularly interacts with nearly all divisions within SCAQMD, the public, local governments, consultants, and other stakeholders when determining how new projects, such as a new power plant or a new warehouse, might impact air quality. Prior to joining SCAQMD, Ian served as a consultant to the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), assisting the LAUSD with soil contamination and air quality issues related to its infrastructure projects, which included about 100 new schools.

Geology is clearly a passion for Ian. He holds two geology degrees, a BS from the University of California, Los Angeles and an MS from University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). He’s working on his PhD in Geology from the UCSB, which he hopes to complete by the end of this summer. As part of his geology coursework over the years, he travelled to places like Costa Rica (where he met his future wife, Robyn), New Zealand, Mexico and the southwest United States in order to “visit where the rocks are.”

Ian and Robyn live in Long Beach with Bixby, a German Shepherd/Rottweiler they rescued from the animal shelter, and George, a rabbit. Beach volleyball and 3-5 mile daily walks with Bixby help Ian stay in shape.

Ian drives a compressed natural gas car to work, where he likes “providing a public service utilizing science and on-the-ground reality to protect public health.”

Javier Enriquez

Being a United States Marine Senior Advisor to the Company Commander at the Al Alasad Air Base in Iraq during two tours of duty couldn’t be more different than Javier Enriquez’ current job as a Fleet Services Worker II at SCAQMD. Aside from the obvious difference of being in the middle of an intense combat area, he never drove or touched fuel in Iraq (two of his primary duties at SCAQMD) as one of his 113 subordinates took care of those duties. Javier is understandably proud of his military career, and enjoys sharing his stories and photographs.

In 1986, Javier left his job working part-time for the Los Angeles County Coroner’s Office to join SCAQMD. He was a new parent and needed to find full-time work.

Javier was born in Mexico and grew up in East Los Angeles. His brother, also a Marine, helped him stay away from gangs and inspired him to join the Marines to “become stronger.” Javier currently lives in Ontario with his wife Angelica, whom he met at SCAQMD in the early ’90s. Their blended family includes five children, ranging in age from 8 to 22. Javier’s son is also a Marine and is currently serving as a Scout in Afghanistan. Javier’s daughter, a police cadet, wants to carry on the family tradition and become a Marine too.

In Javier’s limited free time, he enjoys camping and hiking with his family, along with extreme adventure activities like sky diving, hang gliding and scuba diving.

Nearly every day, Javier rides his bike to his home away from home at SCAQMD. During his mobilizations to Iraq, he appreciated the outpouring of support from his SCAQMD family. “Everyone was so understanding and generous. They helped me make the transition from tanks to Toyotas so much easier.”

Pat Krayser

Pat at Krayser is the calm at the center of a beehive of activity that is the typical character of the Science and Technology Advancement Division (STA). She offers candy and a can-do attitude that helped her to quickly become a part of the STA family. Pat is the Senior Administrative Secretary for Dr. Chung Liu, Deputy Executive Superintendent of Business. She became interested in SCAQMD for a number of reasons, including that she lives in Diamond Bar, and the four-day week was very beneficial as Pat spends part of her weekend tending to the needs of her 94-year-old mother, who still lives independently.

Pat was born in Brooklyn, New York, completed secretarial school in Manhattan, and worked at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey. She has been married to her high school sweetheart, Greg, for 36 years. After visiting her brother in Los Angeles, Pat and Greg moved to California. They have two grown sons, Ryan, who is an Assistant Director at Warner Brothers, and Jonathan, who is a Claims Practice Specialist at Allstate. Pat enjoys taking walks on the beach in addition to baking, knitting, and gardening. African violets seem to thrive under her care.

Pat enjoys the fast pace and challenging work at SCAQMD. She is especially pleased “to be surrounded by professionals who have raised my bar…I’ve definitely grown. It is so amazing to learn all of the ways SCAQMD is involved in cleaning our air.”
Rule Compliance

Promotion Classes

Rule 403 – Controlling Dust in the South Coast Air Basin
• Every third Wednesday of the month
This half-day class is held at SCAQMD’s Diamond Bar headquarters from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. There is no fee, but pre-registration is required. To register, call toll free 1-866-861-DUST (3878) or email dustcontrol@aqmd.gov.

Rule 2202 – Employee Transportation Coordinator Training
• May 12, Marriott Courtyard, Sherman Oaks
• May 19, SCAQMD Diamond Bar Headquarters
• June 2, LAX Flight Path Museum, Los Angeles
• June 16, Orange County Transportation Authority, Orange
• June 24, SCAQMD Diamond Bar Headquarters
Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration fee is $154.81 per person. Enrollment is limited to 20 students and classes will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis. Class information is located at www.aqmd.gov under Business/Transportation/Rule 2202 Training. To register, call (909) 396-2777 or email etctraining@aqmd.gov.

Rule 1403 – Asbestos Demolition/Renovation Activities
Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at SCAQMD Diamond Bar Headquarters. Registration fee is $32.75 per person and pre-registration is required.
• May 19
• June 16
To register, call (909) 396-2658 or email doswald@aqmd.gov.

Rule 1469 – Mandatory Hexavalent Chromium Certification
Rule 1469 requires personnel from all chrome plating and chromic acid anodizing facilities to complete mandatory training and certification every two years. This training is required for personnel responsible for environmental compliance, maintaining plating bath chemistries, and testing and recording plating bath surface tension. Class fee is $35 per person or $70 per company (up to 3 people and $20 for each additional person if sending four or more people). Fees must be paid in advance and received at SCAQMD two weeks prior to the class date. Classes will be filled in the order in which they are received. Registration is confirmed only upon receipt of a completed registration form and payment.
This half-day class meets at SCAQMD Headquarters from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. No walk-in registration.
• May 27 (Spanish)
Contact Diane Oswald at (909) 396-2658 or doswald@aqmd.gov for additional information.

Rule 461 – Gasoline Transfer and Dispensing
The Rule 461 series provide attendees with a fundamental understanding of vapor recovery systems and other information necessary to comply with Rule 461 requirements. Since each class is designed for a particular activity conducted under Rule 461, please refer to the rule to determine which class or classes are required. Other topics covered include: the history of regional smog controls; how gasoline vapors contribute to smog formation and the important role this program plays in SCAQMD’s efforts to achieve healthy air quality within our basin.
Daily Self-Inspection Class for Gasoline Service Station Owners/Operators - $50.00/person
• June 3
• October 29
Annual Periodic Inspection Class for Gasoline Service Station Owners/Operators (two day class) - $150.00/person
• June 24 & 25
• October 7 & 8
Tester Orientation Training - $100.00/person
• June 18
• August 13
• October 22
Classes are held from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the SCAQMD’s Diamond Bar Headquarters. Pre-registration is required. No walk-in registration.
Contact Yvonne Hoo at (909) 396-2387 or email yhoo@aqmd.gov for additional information.