



# Clean Air Congress VOICE

SUMMER 2007

## Tell Us Your Story

Air pollution affects the health and welfare of everyone. The AQMD is interested in individual stories about how air pollution has affected the health of Southland residents. Through the Community Voices for Clean Air program, we are asking you to send your personal stories, photos and videos about smog's effect on your health, a family member's health, or a friend's health to [yourstory@aqmd.gov](mailto:yourstory@aqmd.gov). Please note that we cannot return any photos or videos submitted. AQMD will disseminate selected stories through newsletters, videos, public service announcements and other forums to highlight the human toll of air pollution. These personal stories will help convey the urgency needed to clean the air we breathe.

Particulate pollution alone is estimated to result in approximately 5,400 premature deaths and 2,400 hospitalizations each year in the region.

For more information, contact Jim Clouet at (909) 396-3208.



## AQMD Hosts International Asthma Conference



At a landmark international conference on April 26-27, scientists, physicians, public health professionals, air quality officials, and political and policy makers from around the world addressed the impacts of air pollution on asthma sufferers at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim.

"Throughout the world, there has been an alarming increase in the incidence of asthma," said William Burke, Ed.D., Governing Board Chairman of the South Coast Air Quality Management District. "Recent research indicates that air pollution causes permanent lung damage and irreversible scarring in children," he added.

AQMD hosted the two-day conference titled "Asthma Is a Small World ... Asthma Impacts of Air Pollution." The event brought together policy makers and health experts ranging from State Assembly Speaker Fabian Núñez, to regional, state, national and world-renowned asthma and air quality experts.



United States Senator Barbara Boxer addressed the conference via video and Olympic Gold Medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey spoke about the challenge of achieving success with asthma. AQMD Governing Board Chair Dr. William Burke, along with eleven-year old asthma sufferer Jonah Ramirez, who was featured in the first issue of the VOICE, introduced Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger who was the closing keynote speaker for the event.

AQMD provided a Ride N Drive raising awareness of clean air vehicles available, as well as, offering tours of the Breathmobile. Asthma Is a Small World provided a valuable focal point to gather information, ideas and international contacts regarding awareness of the human costs of delayed pollution cleanup efforts.

For more information, contact Patrician Price at (909) 396-2690.

## Recent Event

On July 22nd, the AQMD participated at the South Pasadena Clean Air Car Show & Film Festival displaying a fuel cell vehicle, Ford Escape hybrid and electric lawn mower. Over 20 vehicles were on display at the event. In addition, the movie, "An Inconvenient Truth" was shown.



## Upcoming Events

You are invited to these Upcoming Events!

**Saturday/Sunday, August 18-19 & Saturday-Monday, September 1-3, 2007**

- **African Marketplace & Cultural Faire**  
Rancho Cienega Park,  
5001 Rodeo Road, Los Angeles  
10 a.m. – 9 p.m.

**Thursday, August 23, 2007**

- **Foothill Unity Center's 2007 Back to School Distribution**  
Santa Anita Park, Arcadia  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Saturday, September 15, 2007**

- **13th Annual River Rally & Environmental Expo**  
Santa Clarita  
8 – 11:00 a.m.

**Saturday, September 29, 2007**

- **Fall 2007 Symposium, LA Society of Allergy, Asthma & Clinical Immunology**  
Skirball Cultural Center,  
2701 N. Sepúlveda Blvd., Los Angeles  
8 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Sunday, September 30, 2007**

- **Asthma Walks 2007 – California State University San Bernardino & Irvine Spectrum, Irvine**  
Beginning at 8 a.m.

**Saturday, October 6, 2007**

- **Pacoima Beautiful Family Day**  
Pacoima Community Center,  
11243 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima

## Air Quality Management Plan

Every three years, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) prepares an overall plan (AQMP) for the air quality improvement to be submitted for inclusion in the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

On June 22, 2007, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) held a hearing at the LAX Marriott Hotel. At the meeting members of the public, elected officials including Lt. Governor John Garamendi, Senator Gil Cedillo, as well as AQMD Board Members and staff recommended more aggressive actions to reduce emissions from mobile sources, which contribute over 80 percent of the particulate matter pollution in our region, and are responsible for impacting our health.

Based on public input received at the hearing, CARB has delayed the adoption of its State Strategy. Instead, the CARB Board directed its staff to work closely with the AQMD to strengthen the plan to further reduce mobile source emissions. The AQMD staff will work closely with CARB staff in this effort and we will keep you informed of future progress on this important issue.

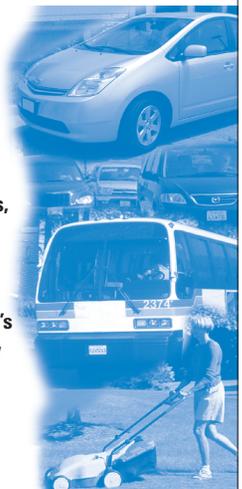
CARB tentatively has scheduled a State Implementation Plan (SIP) Hearing on September 27 and September 28, 2007 for the state strategies and AQMD's 2007 Air Quality Management Plan at the South Coast Air Quality Management District headquarters in Diamond Bar.

## Is Climate Change Affecting You? What is Climate Change?

A worldwide scientific consensus has emerged that emissions of certain pollutants are causing the sun's heat to be trapped rather than reflected back in space, causing a global average increase in temperature. The result is a potentially significant regional change in climate, such as increased storm frequency, drought and sea level rise. In California, climate change indicators measured over the past 100 years such as air temperature, annual Sierra Nevada snow melt and sea level rise all indicate that California's climate is warming. Emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) are the leading cause of climate change- also known as global warming-with other air pollutants including methane, nitrous oxide and hydrofluorocarbons also contributing. The burning of fossil fuels through activities such as driving, flying, heating homes or power generation results in CO2 emissions.

### Minimize Your Impact on Climate Change

- **45-55 is the average miles per gallon of a 2007 hybrid compact sedan.**  
To find out about available low-emission hybrids, visit [www.cleanairchoices.org](http://www.cleanairchoices.org).
- **500 is the number of pounds of CO2 emissions prevented by adjusting your thermostat 2 degrees lower in the winter and 2 degrees higher in the summer.**
- **7,400,000 is the number of tons of CO2 emissions reduced from the use of public transportation in the U.S. to find out more about public transportation in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Visit [www.mta.net](http://www.mta.net), [www.octa.net](http://www.octa.net), [www.riversidetransit.com](http://www.riversidetransit.com), or [www.omnitrans.org](http://www.omnitrans.org).**
- **43 is the number of new cars driven for one year needed to equal emissions from a single gasoline-powered mower in a typical year's use. Participate in one of AQMD's electric lawn mower exchanges, where for only \$100 you can exchange your highly polluting gas mower for a zero-emission electric model.**
- **35 is the amount in \$ that Californians can save annually by switching to a compact fluorescent lamp, which lasts 10 times longer and uses 66% less energy than a conventional light bulb.**



This news publication is produced by the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Public Affairs Office. AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. *AQMD does not endorse or warrant any products, services or companies mentioned in this publication.*

To subscribe, send your name and address to AQMDVoice, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182. You can also e-mail [cleanaircongress@aqmd.gov](mailto:cleanaircongress@aqmd.gov). For comments to the editor, e-mail [pprice@aqmd.gov](mailto:pprice@aqmd.gov) or call Patricia Price at (909) 396-2690. For news updates and other information, visit AQMD's website at [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov).