



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

Spare the Air ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

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Bay Area enters last month of Summer Smog Season

Spare the Air on Thursday

San Francisco, CA. As the Bay Area enters the last month of the 2003 summer smog season, unhealthy air quality is expected tomorrow, **Thursday, September 11, 2003. This is the eighth Spare the Air Advisory of the year.** A strong high pressure system over the region, escalating temperatures and decreasing wind flow are expected to produce ground level ozone in excess of federal standards.

- **This is a critical time for air quality. If there is one more excess of the federal ozone standard this year in Livermore, the Bay Area loses its chance to meet federal air quality standards. Non-attainment with the Clean Air Act could result in the loss of federal transit and highway funds.**
- Bay Area residents are urged to reduce pollution tomorrow, every contribution counts.
- **Air pollution generated in one part of the Bay Area often ends up in eastern Alameda and Contra Costa counties and in the south bay. Very high temperatures and air trapped in valleys creates prime conditions for creating ground level ozone or smog.**
- Ground level ozone at concentrations over health-based air quality standards impacts those with respiratory and heart conditions as well as the young and elderly.

Precautions and How you can help

- **Vigorous outdoor exercise should be limited to the early morning hours or around sunset when ozone levels decrease.**
- **Plan a clean air commute tomorrow – drive less, take public transit or carpool – call 511 or check www.511.org for transit information. WHEELS buses in the Livermore-Dublin-Pleasanton area will again have free rides on Spare the Air day. Call 925-455-7500 or check www.wheelsbus.com for route and schedule information.**
- **RIDES for Bay Area Commuters provides free carpool match lists to parents with students attending the same school. For more information, call 510-273-2076. To fill out an application online go to www.ridesharetoschool.org/.**
- **Take a lunch to work so you don't need to make another car trip.**
- **Link trips for errands – a warm engine is less polluting than one just started cold.**
- **Refuel after 6 p.m. when ozone levels are lower.**
- **Don't use using gasoline-powered lawn and garden equipment – this equipment emits nine tons of smog-forming emissions to the air each summer day.**
- **Don't speed – driving at excess speeds generates excess pollution.**

For background and air quality information visit the website: www.sparetheair.org

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