



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 7, 2013**

**CONTACT: Tom Flannigan**  
**415.749.4900**

## **Bay Area Air District renews \$7 million Vehicle Buy Back Program** ***Cars 1994 or older eligible for \$1,000 offer***

**SAN FRANCISCO** - The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing \$7 million in funding for the renewed Vehicle Buy Back Program in the nine county Bay Area region of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, southwestern Solano and southern Sonoma Counties. Residents with vehicles model year 1994 and older registered in these counties are eligible to receive \$1,000 to voluntarily retire these higher polluting cars.

Compared to newer vehicles, older vehicles lack modern emission-control technology and pollute significantly more than newer models. The goal of the Vehicle Buy Back Program is to assist in removing these higher-polluting vehicles from Bay Area roads.

"Pollution from automobiles accounts for more than half of the overall air pollution in the Bay Area and is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Older vehicles, even when they pass smog check, run dirtier than newer engines and contribute to unhealthy air quality in our neighborhoods."

Eligibility requirements for the Vehicle Buy Back Program include:

- Vehicle must be 1994 model year or older
- Vehicle must be currently registered as operable and must be drivable
- Vehicle must have been registered in the Bay Area for the past 24 months
- Vehicles within 60 days of a required smog check must take and pass their smog check

A complete list of program eligibility requirements is available at: [www.baaqmd.gov/vbb](http://www.baaqmd.gov/vbb). The program's two approved auto dismantlers, listed below, can also help to determine a vehicle's eligibility.

Dismantler	<b>Environmental Engineering Services</b>	<b>Pick-N-Pull</b>
Phone Number	<b>1-855-343-7314</b>	<b>1-800-727-2708</b>

For each vehicle removed from Bay Area roads an estimated 75 pounds of air pollution is prevented from being emitted into the air annually. Among the air pollutants reduced by the Vehicle Buy Back Program are fine particles and ozone, the main ingredient in smog. These pollutants contribute to respiratory diseases and increased mortality rates. This program also reduces greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide, the principal gas responsible for climate change.

For general information about the Vehicle Buy Back Program, visit [www.baaqmd.gov/vbb](http://www.baaqmd.gov/vbb).

The State of California also operates a vehicle buy back program for vehicles that do not pass their smog check. Details are available: [www.smogtips.com/vehicle\\_buy\\_back.cfm](http://www.smogtips.com/vehicle_buy_back.cfm)

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District ([www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)) is the regional agency chartered with protecting air quality in the nine county Bay Area region.

###