



NEWS

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Air District Announces Winners of Great Race for Clean Air

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air District is announcing the results of the Great Race for Clean Air, a competition between Bay Area companies to see whose employees could reduce the most CO₂ by carpooling, vanpooling, biking, walking or riding transit to work instead of driving alone.

Driving alone to work continues to be one of the region's largest sources of air pollution. The Great Race for Clean Air challenges commuters to try out commute alternatives that help improve regional air quality. This is the fifth year of the Bay Area-wide commuting competition.

"Reducing the number of cars on Bay Area roads can substantially reduce air pollution," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "The Great Race for Clean Air shows there's a better way to work than driving alone and allows us to enjoy cleaner air in the Bay Area."

During September and October, 526 employees from 47 companies logged their daily air-friendly commutes. Approximately 325,788 lbs. of CO₂ were saved by employees who chose not to drive to work alone.

The companies with the highest overall CO₂ savings were:

1 st Place	Nektar Therapeutics, Inc.
2 nd Place	Gilead Sciences, Inc.
3 rd Place	City of San Jose

The companies with the highest participation rates (categorized by company size):

Mini (1-25 employees)

1 st Place	Hacienda Owners Association
2 nd Place	Walk San Francisco
3 rd Place	Commute.org

Small (26-100 employees)

1 st Place	HDR, Inc.
2 nd Place	Peanut Labs & Research Now
3 rd Place	Motiv Power Systems

Mid-Size (101-500 employees)

1 st Place	Nektar Therapeutics, Inc.
2 nd Place	Taulia
3 rd Place	Jewish Community Center of San Francisco

Large (501-1000) No employers met the minimum 5% participation threshold

Extra Large (1001+) No employers met the minimum 5% participation threshold

The companies with the greatest number of "Clean Commute Days" per participant (employer's total clean commute days divided by number of participants):

1 st Place	Juniper Networks
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2nd Place Solazyme, Inc.
3rd Place Murakami/Nelson

Winners were chosen in three categories: highest CO₂ savings, highest percentage of “clean commute days” logged and highest percentage of employee participation. CO₂ savings were calculated based on the length of the employee’s commute, their vehicle’s gas mileage and the number of miles that were traveled using one of the commute alternatives.

A complete list of winners is available at <http://www.sparetheair.org/Get-Involved/Great-Race-for-Clean-Air/Great-Race-Winners.aspx>.

The Great Race for Clean Air was sponsored by the Air District in partnership with 511 Rideshare, 511 Contra Costa, Commute.org, the San Francisco Department of the Environment and Solano-Napa Commuter Information.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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