

Agenda Date: March 15, 2007
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Continued Item: No

Board Agenda Item

TO: Air Pollution Control District Board

FROM: Terry Dressler, Air Pollution Control Officer

CONTACT: Bobbie Bratz, 961-8890

SUBJECT: Earth Day in April and Clean Air Month in May, 2007

RECOMMENDATION:

- Adopt attached Earth Day and Clean Air Month Resolution affirming APCD's commitment to raising awareness of health effects of air pollution and of the need to work for cleaner air.

DISCUSSION:

The first Earth Day was celebrated nationally in 1970, and the American Lung Association has celebrated Clean Air Month in May for many years, with the first celebration of Clean Air Week in 1972.

Every year, throughout the year, and especially in connection with events in April and May, APCD works to educate people about the importance of clean air and how their actions can make a difference. This year, APCD's activities for Earth Day and Clean Air Month will include the following:

- Ongoing presentations in county classrooms in April and May, educating students about air pollution, and what they can do to help work for cleaner air.
- Participation in county Earth Day events and initiatives, including "Do Your Part on Earth Day – Ride Free on MTD," an effort to increase bus ridership by promoting free MTD bus and shuttle service on Sunday April 22, 2007, the date of the South Coast Earth Day Festival.
- Co-sponsorship of the Santa Barbara County Education Office's Education Celebration on May 24, 2007, an annual event honoring county teachers who have received special awards. APCD

will provide gifts of educational materials to county teachers at the event.

- Distribution of a poster in Spanish and English on “Health Effects of Air Pollution,” and information on air pollution’s impacts on asthma.
- Distribution of educational materials related to our interactive kiosk R2P2 (Robot Resource for Pollution Prevention), now on long-term display at the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum, at the Museum on May 6th, for “Santa Maria Safari,” a special event that showcases all the museums in Santa Maria.

**Santa Barbara County
Air Pollution Control District Board
Resolution**

**Earth Day and Clean Air Month
April and May 2007**

Whereas, the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District’s mission is to protect the people and the environment of Santa Barbara County from the effects of air pollution; and

Whereas, health studies continue to show the damaging effects of ozone and particle pollution on human hearts and lungs; and

Whereas, education about and promotion of alternate forms of transportation helps reduce air pollution and traffic; and

Whereas, April 22 is the date of the national celebration of Earth Day, and the Community Environmental Council (CEC) and UCSB Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management are co-presenting the South Coast Earth Day Celebration on Sunday April 22, 2007, 10am-5:30 pm at the County Courthouse Sunken Gardens; and

Whereas, APCD is working with partners including the Community Environmental Council, UCSB Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management, Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD), SBCAG/Traffic Solutions, and the City of Santa Barbara to promote “Do Your Part on Earth Day – Ride Free on MTD” to reduce air pollution and traffic by attracting more riders to bus service on April 22; and

Whereas, the American Lung Association has declared the month of May as Clean Air Month, the Santa Barbara County Education Office is holding its Education Celebration on May 24, 2007 and the Santa Maria Valley Discovery Museum, which displays APCD’s educational kiosk Robot Resource for Pollution Prevention (R2P2), celebrates “Santa Maria Safari” on May 6th, 2007.

Therefore, be it resolved that April 22, 2007 is recognized as Earth Day and the month of May 2007 is recognized as Clean Air Month. The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District does hereby confirm our commitment to ensure clean air for the citizens of Santa Barbara County and to raise awareness of the health effects of air pollution and ways individuals can work for cleaner air. We challenge every resident to actively participate in efforts to improve and protect the quality of the air we breathe.

Attest: _____
Clerk of the Board

Will Schuyler, Chair

Date: _____

APCD Resolution No. _____