

Yuba - Sutter Air Matters



Volume 2, Issue 4 Fourth Quarter 2017

Annual Renewals & Throughput Reporting



Annual Invoices were mailed out September 28th. All stationary sources permit holders will receive an invoice to renew the permit for 2017. All current permits expire on December 31, 2017.

Payment is due by November 28, 2017. Please contact the District if you have any questions at (530) 634-7659 ext 201.

Upon payment, your new permit and throughput forms will be sent in mid

December, 2017.

Throughput reporting is due by February 28, 2018 for the 2017 calendar year.



Other permits issued by the District, including burn permits and authority to constructs, have individual expiration dates and may not expire at the end of the year. Please refer to your permit or call the District for more information.

4th Quarter Dates of Interest:

- October 2 FRAQMD Board Meeting/ Public Hearing for 2008 Ozone Plan
- November 1 Stoplight: Check Before You Burn Program begins issuing recommended actions for wood burning devices
- December 4 FRAQMD Board Meeting

2017 FRAQMD Board

Jay Pendergraph, Chair, Wheatland

Larry Munger, Vice-Chair, Sutter Co

Stan Cleveland Jr., Yuba City

Dale Whitmore, Marysville

Randy Fletcher, Yuba County

Andy Vasquez, Yuba County

Gary Bradford, Yuba County

James Whiteaker, Sutter County

Lakhvir Ghag, Live Oak

The FRAQMD Board meets at 4pm on the first Monday of the even months

Effective January 1, 2018, the cost per ton of pollutants under the voluntary off-site mitigation program for projects under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) increases to \$30,000/ton.
www.fraqmd.org/ceqa-planning

Commercial Cannabis Cultivation

Local commercial cannabis cultivation sites may require a permit to operate from the District. Please contact the District if you are considering a cultivation site. At this time, there are no known jurisdictions within Yuba or Sutter counties that will be issuing permits/licenses for commercial cannabis cultivation on January 1, 2018.

FRAQMD Board Adopts Ozone Attainment Plan

On October 2, 2017, the FRAQMD Board held a public hearing and adopted the 2008 Sacramento Regional Ozone Plan, which demonstrates the region will meet a federal 8-hour ozone standard of 75 parts per billion (ppb) two years ahead of schedule, or by July 20, 2025, without any additional control measures or new local rules.

Air quality has improved substantially in the region, primarily due to emission reductions from cars and trucks, which generate 85 percent of the region's oxides of nitrogen (NOx), a primary contributor to ozone, or smog. The Ozone Plan reflects ongoing regional reductions in ozone pollution,

which can damage lung tissue and lead to decreased lung function. Highlights of the region's successes:

- Between 2000 and 2016, the number of days the region exceeded the standard was reduced by 42 percent, despite growth in the region's population and traffic.

- During that same time period, the population grew by 25 percent and vehicle miles traveled by 36 percent.

At the same time, NOx emissions were reduced by 61 percent, almost all from cars and trucks. NOx emissions are expected to be cut

in half between now and the attainment year.

The southern portion of Sutter County is included in the Sacramento Federal Nonattainment Area for Ozone.

The remaining portion of Sutter County, including the Sutter Buttes Nonattainment Area, and Yuba County were found to be meeting the 2008 federal ozone standard.

The federal ozone standard was revised in 2015. The standard was lowered from 75 ppb to 70 ppb. Designations for the 2015 revision were expected in October 2017 but have not yet been issued.

Feather River Air Quality Management District

Christopher D. Brown, AICP
Air Pollution Control Officer

541 Washington Avenue
Yuba City, CA 95991

Phone: 530-634-7659
Fax: 530-634-7660
Webpage: www.fraqmd.org

Residential Burn Line: 530-741-6299

Introducing Tito Martinez, Air Quality Engineer

Tito started working at the District as an Air Quality Engineer in October 2017. He is a recent graduate of UC Davis with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in music. Tito has internship experience dealing with lithium-ion batteries, surveillance drones, and research medical-devices. Tito believes in the practice of utilizing acquired knowledge and skills to help propel greater efforts of societal concern.



Tito grew up in Southern California and now enjoys life in Northern California. He consider this state his home and aspires to explore every California national park. He is currently commuting from Davis where he enjoys spending most of his free-time. His absolute favorite things to do are creating music with friends, overeating, going to concerts with the girlfriend, and discussions on ideologies of the human experience. He is excited to excel in his position.

Stoplight: Check Before You Burn Program Starts November 1st

Beginning November 1st, the District will issue a recommended action for operation of wood burning devices in Sutter and Yuba counties. The recommended action will be posted on the District's website and sent in the forecast by 3:30 pm for the following day. If the air is forecasted to be unhealthy, residents with alternative forms of heat will be asked to forego burning in their wood stove or fireplace. Check out our website for more information.

Carl Moyer Grant Program begins in December

Grants reduce air pollution by covering the incremental cost of cleaner engines and equipment. Must be 25 hp or greater and operate in Yuba/ Sutter counties.

Visit <http://www.fraqmd.org/carl-moyer-grant-program> for more information.

Intensive Fall Rice Burn Season

The Rice Straw Burning Reduction Act was enacted in 1991 by the California Legislature to phase down (but not phase out) burning of rice straw in the Sacramento Valley Air Basin. The Sacramento Valley Agricultural Burn Plan establishes the procedures the District follows to allow rice straw burning.

The Smoke Management Program matches agricultural burning acres to each day's meteorological and air quality conditions. Favorable conditions result in higher acreage allocations. Poor conditions diminish the number of acres allocated. Parameters such as wind speed and direction, inversion strength, moisture, cloud cover, valley-wide particulate air quality, local particulate (PM2.5) values and wildfire smoke affect daily acreage allocations.

IFRBS Acres Burned

Sutter	3,677.8
Yuba	1,443.4
Basin-wide	23,128.3

The fall of 2017 experienced many different types of days. There were ten consecutive no burn days from October 8 through October 17 due to the wildfires in Northern California. On October 11 we had a valley-wide average PM2.5 of 42.9 micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m3). Never before had we seen that high of a value. The first rainfall was on October 19. There were 26 days with rain or declared wet days by the CA Air Resources Board. On those days burning is limited and no field burning is conducted. We did extend burn hours in the afternoon or start early burning on five days in November. The day with the largest amount of burning (2,591 acres) was November 2 when we started early. Overall weather and air quality factors were worse during the fall of 2017 than in the previous year. The total amount of all agricultural burning (including prescribed burning) was 23,128 acres which is about 9,000 acres less than 2016.

Wintertime Particulate Matter—Burn Smart!

Wood smoke is waste. Any smoke that escapes from your wood stove or fireplace is wasted fuel that will stick in your chimney as creosote or be released as air pollution. Wood smoke contains particulates such as PM10 and PM2.5 as well as toxic air contaminants and other criteria pollutants. An old or poorly installed wood stove can result in higher maintenance costs, greater risk of smoke in your home, and more pollution.

Beginning in 1990, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began certifying woodstoves for emissions levels. Properly installed EPA certified wood stove and fireplace inserts offer many benefits. They burn wood efficiently, more safely, and heat your home effectively with much less smoke. With EPA certified wood stoves and fireplace inserts, you should see only a thin wisp of steam coming from your chimney.

For more information on wood burning in stoves and fireplaces, please visit EPA's website: <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/>

If you are interested in receiving a grant to replace your old, uncertified wood burning device, contact the District at (530) 634-7659 ext 210.