

Valley Clean Air Now



1st Annual Planet Party Day

Manteca Students Go Green!

On April 15, Valley CAN co-sponsored Manteca's first annual Planet Party Day hosted by Manteca Unified School District, Manteca Unified School District Trust and Leadership on Green Initiatives Committee. The event, marking the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, aimed to educate students about environmental stewardship and the critical roles they can play in protecting Mother Nature.

More than 2,000 Manteca area students gathered at the Manteca Unified School District headquarters where they engaged in educational activities and informational sessions provided by PG&E, Big Valley Ford and Lathrop-based J.R. Simplot Company. J.R. Simplot provided educational sessions on the journey of food, or the "farm to table" process.



In order to effectively engage young students, Planet Party Day focused on education through enjoyment and entertainment. One such innovative activity included a bicycle designed to be a human-powered blender. The San Joaquin County Health Services Department provided the device that used the students' efforts to produce delicious strawberry smoothies and demonstrate healthy eating and exercise. Other educational yet entertaining activities included a "toxic" dunk tank, a water filtration demonstration, a recycling race, electric cars and a questions and answers session with industry leaders on how to develop more eco-friendly learning environments.

Valley CAN spread the word on improving air quality through our own educational activities, collateral materials and giveaways that educated Valley residents on effective ways to reduce air pollution.

American Lung Association in California: Healthy Air Walk

Bakersfield citizens get active to improve air quality

On April 10, Valley CAN co-sponsored the American Lung Association in California (ALAC) Healthy Air Walk at Yokuts Park in Bakersfield. Fundraising efforts raised more than \$62,000 to increase awareness of the ALAC's "healthy air movement" and ultimately help reduce air pollution in the Valley. In addition to co-sponsoring the event, Valley CAN staff formed our own walking team that raised \$500 in contributions.

The money raised by the Healthy Air Walk will fund advocacy programs focused on some of the most serious threats to lung health. Several of the vital ALAC issue areas include air pollution, tobacco control, global warming, asthma policy and tuberculosis. In addition, the donations will fund educational programs critical to lung health and preventative environmental measures to protect our lungs. Donations also fund research programs that are the building blocks for future innovations in preventing lung diseases.



Beginning next year, we are proud to announce that Valley CAN staff will sit on the Bakersfield ALAC Leadership Council. As a board member, Valley CAN will actively support the ALAC's mission of fighting for clean air and lung disease research, as well as assist with local outreach and fundraising efforts for the annual Healthy Air Walk. Valley CAN is proud to support an organization that has shared the same goal to improve the Central Valley air quality and the quality of life for all its citizens. Thank you to ALAC regional director Nan Hart for recruiting Valley CAN to its Leadership Council.

Fresno Earth Day Event

On April 24, Valley CAN staff participated in Fresno's Earth Day event presented by Fresno Pacific University, Universalist Church of Fresno and greenfresno.org at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fresno in Clovis. The event was an informative day filled with educational and hands-on activities for all ages, including a green car show, e-waste recycling center, solar cooking demonstrations, and a tour of the "green" building features of the La Querencia co-housing community.



There were hundreds of participants in this "Go Green" event to link students, residents, businesses and nonprofits with innovative approaches to cleaner air, a greener lifestyle and more sustainable and healthy environment. Sponsors included the American Lung Association, Coalition for Clean Air, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, Real Goods Solar, Solar City, Shaklee Products and the Fresno Regional Foundation. There were many Earth Day participants, vendors and attendees that made this special day in Fresno possible. Valley CAN was proud to be a critical part of this worthwhile event.

Other Valley CAN Events & Activities

Northern Valley

- Stockton Earth Day Event
- Sustainability in the San Joaquin Valley Forums in Stockton
- Great Valley Center Conference in Modesto
- 32nd Annual Senior Awareness Day "Grey Goes Green" in Lodi

Central Valley

- Regional Jobs Initiative Annual Meeting in Fresno
- San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District "Particulate Pollution in the San Joaquin Valley: Translating Science into Policy" Conference

Southern Valley

- Greater Bakersfield Green Expo

Upcoming Events

Northern Valley

- Green Valley Expo, Stockton
June 26, 2010
- The *Stockton Record's* Literacy and Book Fair- Family Day at the Park, University Park
September 18, 2010

Central Valley

- Regional Jobs Initiative and Economic Development Corporation serving Fresno County "Logistics and Distribution Cluster" Event
June 16, 2010
- California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Board of Directors planning meeting
August 20, 2010

Southern Valley

- American Lung Association of California Leadership Board Dinner
June 23, 2010
- Kern County Economic Development Corporation Annual Energy Summit
November 10, 2010

Grant Program
2010 Submission Deadlines

Valley Clean Air Now Grant Program

2010 Grant Submission Deadlines

August 19, 2010

November 4, 2010

Funding amounts range from \$5,000 to \$30,000. If more is requested it will be determined on a project-by-project basis. Valley CAN does not grant funds to cover staff time, salaries, or overhead.

For more information about 2010 Grant Applications, please visit: www.valley-can.org or email info@valley-can.org.

Contact

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