



## Welcome

We are excited to present the first issue of South Coast AQMD's Environmental Justice newsletter. Our goal in producing the newsletter is to keep you informed with important information, upcoming meetings and events in your communities. We plan for this newsletter to be a valuable resource to you, your organization and community, and hope that you will share it with your family and friends. Don't want to miss an issue? Sign up to receive the newsletter by emailing the word NEWSLETTER to [EJCP@aqmd.gov](mailto:EJCP@aqmd.gov).

### Environmental Justice Community Partnership

The Environmental Justice Community Partnership (EJCP) Advisory Council's mission is to ensure that South Coast AQMD's EJCP programs address the air quality concerns of diverse communities throughout South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction. Through EJCP efforts, South Coast AQMD hosts a series of events with an environmental justice focus such as forums, training sessions, meetings, conferences, and other engaging activities to help broaden mutual awareness of environmental justice topics. The events keep South Coast AQMD connected to the residents whom the agency serves. Working in partnership with the community allows South Coast AQMD to more effectively identify and address environmental justice issues impacting local Southland communities.

### 6th Annual Environmental Justice Conference

Mark your calendar! The 6th Annual Virtual Environmental Justice Conference, "A New Era of Environmental Justice - Our Community Survival", is on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The virtual platform is hosted by WHOVA. The conference will bring local, state, and national community organizers, and community activists, organizers, scientists, and storytellers to address the current economic, health, and environmental challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the consequences of air pollution and other environmental hazards on communities of color. The discussion panels will channel the power of the voices in the community and in government chambers demanding justice. To register and obtain more information click on the link: [https://whova.com/portal/registration/aejc\\_202009/](https://whova.com/portal/registration/aejc_202009/). You can also register by phone or email by contacting Alicia Rodriguez at (909) 396-2311 or [EJCP@aqmd.gov](mailto:EJCP@aqmd.gov).

## South Coast AQMD's Environmental Justice Community Partnership Programs

### Environmental Justice Advisory Group

The mission of the Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG) is to advise and assist South Coast AQMD in protecting and improving public health in South Coast AQMD's most impacted communities through the reduction and prevention of air pollution. EJAG members (representing all four counties) meet quarterly to review agency activities that impact environmental justice communities and make recommendations on how to address community concerns. The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2020, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### EJCP Advisory Council

The EJCP Advisory Council serves to strengthen South Coast AQMD's relationships and alliances with community stakeholders and organizations, as well as to work towards achieving clean air and healthy sustainable communities for everyone. EJCP members meet quarterly and the next meeting is on December 2, 2020, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### COVID-19 IMPACTS

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted society, especially in disadvantaged communities. Communities living in areas near sources of air pollution, and in redlining neighborhoods that already have underlying health conditions and lack access to health care.

South Coast AQMD is sensitive to the ongoing challenges currently facing the public, businesses, organizations, and the frontline communities within our jurisdiction due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are committed to doing what we can to help businesses while protecting air quality, public health and safety.

Please visit the COVID-19 links below for resources, operational updates and latest information.

#### South Coast AQMD

<http://www.aqmd.gov/covid-19>

#### Los Angeles County

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/>

#### Orange County

<https://occovid19.ochealthinfo.com/>

#### Riverside County

<https://www.rivcoph.org/coronavirus>

#### San Bernardino County

<http://sbcovid19.com/>

## South Coast AQMD's Environmental Justice Community Partnership Programs

### Inter-Agency Task Force

South Coast AQMD's Environmental Justice Inter-Agency Task Force (Task Force) was established to identify and implement mechanisms that government agencies can collaborate to better coordinate and communicate in processing complaints in environmental justice communities. The Task Force meets quarterly and have worked together on improving and streamlining agency coordination. The next meeting is on November 4, 2020, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### Young Leaders Advisory Council

The mission of the Young Leaders Advisory Council (YLAC) is for South Coast AQMD to educate and engage young adults (18-30) regarding the region's clean air issues and garner greater insight into their generation's concerns, values and priorities about air quality. YLAC meets quarterly and the next meeting is on October 21, 2020, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## HIGHLIGHT

### Inter-Agency Task Force Staff Training

The Inter-Agency Task Force hosted a virtual Agency Staff Training on August 19, 2020. The Agency Staff Training provided an opportunity to collaborate with partner agencies, discuss best practices and protocols when responding to complaints by the public. The training was geared to city, county, local district, and other government professionals who are responsible for responding to complaints in environmental justice communities throughout our region. This was also a great opportunity for attendees to engage with partner agencies. We encourage front-line staff to view the recording and share it with others. A recording of the training can be accessed at the following link: <https://youtu.be/qlJxzNO6C4k>.

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS

### AB 617 – Community Steering Committee (CSC) Meetings

Assembly Bill (AB) 617 (C. Garcia), addresses air pollution impacts in environmental justice communities. The program requires local air districts and the CA Air Resources Board to reduce air pollution in the most impacted communities. South Coast AQMD is conducting extensive community-based efforts that focus on improving air quality and public health in environmental justice communities.

#### AB 617 -Community Air Initiatives

South Coast AQMD hosted over 25 public community meetings, and over 60 Community Steering Committee meetings since 2018. The COVID-19 pandemic required the program to switch to a virtual meeting format, which has led to greater accessibility, inclusion, and increased meeting attendance. Staff continues to build relationships with the communities they serve by making themselves accessible and reaching out to Community Steering Committee (CSC) members regularly.

Below is a list of the CARB selected communities:

- East LA, Boyle Heights, West Commerce (ELABHWC)
- Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV)
- San Bernardino, Muscoy (SBM)
- Southeast LA (SELA)
- Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach (WCWLB)

To learn more about AB 617 efforts, upcoming meetings and program information at South Coast AQMD click on the link: [www.aqmd.gov/ab617](http://www.aqmd.gov/ab617) or contact the AB 617 team directly at [AB617@aqmd.gov](mailto:AB617@aqmd.gov).

## Educational Programs

South Coast AQMD has two STEM-based programs that educate students on air quality and health effects of air pollution. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both programs are currently being altered and customized for distance learning in order to continue educating students.

### CAPES

The Clean Air Program for Elementary Students (CAPES), is an elementary school educational program that engages and educates elementary school teachers, students, and their families on air quality and the health effects of air pollution.

### WHAM

Why Healthy Air Matters (WHAM) is geared toward middle and high school students. To learn more click on the link: [www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/wham](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/wham).

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS

### Environmental Justice Student Bus Tour

An Environmental Justice Student Bus Tour is planned for the fall each year, engaging high school and university students in learning how air pollution affects environmental justice communities by visiting communities directly impacted by industrial facilities, ports, and transportation corridors. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a physical tour this fall is not feasible this year. Therefore, we are in the process of transforming an in-person tour into a virtual experience.

### Incentive Programs

South Coast AQMD has two programs that help clean the air through the replacement of gasoline-powered residential lawn mowers and commercial lawn and garden equipment. While South Coast AQMD will prioritize funding in environmental justice or disadvantaged communities to the extent possible, the program is available to all eligible participants who work or reside within South Coast AQMD's four-county jurisdiction. This is a year-round rebate program. Please click on the following link: [www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/community-detail?title=lawn-equipment](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/community-detail?title=lawn-equipment).

## Upcoming Virtual Meetings/Events

### OCTOBER

<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>10/8</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>	<b>AB 617 – SELA CSC Meeting</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>10/22</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>	<b>AB 617 – ECV CSC Meeting</b>
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>10/23</b>	<b>2 to 2 p.m.</b>	<b>EJAG Meeting</b>
<b>Thurs. &amp; Fri.</b>	<b>10/22 &amp; 10/23</b>	<b>9 to 5 p.m.</b>	<b>CARB Board Meeting</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>10/28</b>	<b>8 to 2 p.m.</b>	<b>Environmental Justice Conference</b>

### NOVEMBER

<b>Wed.</b>	<b>11/4</b>	<b>12 to 2 p.m.</b>	<b>Inter-Agency Task Force</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>11/5</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>	<b>AB 617 – SELA CSC Meeting</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>11/19</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>	<b>AB 617 – ECV CSC Meeting</b>
<b>Thurs. &amp; Fri.</b>	<b>11/19 &amp; 11/20</b>	<b>9 to 5 p.m.</b>	<b>CARB Board Meeting</b>

### DECEMBER

<b>Wed.</b>	<b>12/2</b>	<b>12 to 2 p.m.</b>	<b>EJCP Advisory Council Meeting</b>
<b>Thurs. &amp; Fri.</b>	<b>12/10 &amp; 12/11</b>	<b>9 to 5 p.m.</b>	<b>CARB Board Meeting</b>
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>12/8</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>	<b>AB 617 – BHELAWC CSC Meeting</b>
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>12/9</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>	<b>AB 617 – WCWLB CSC Meeting</b>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>12/10</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>	<b>AB 617 – SBM CSC Meeting</b>

\*All meetings are subject to change.

To check for CARB updates use link: [ww2.arb.ca.gov/board-meeting-dates](http://ww2.arb.ca.gov/board-meeting-dates)

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>OCTOBER 2020</b>					1	2	3
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<b>NOVEMBER 2020</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30					
<b>DECEMBER 2020</b>			1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31		

## KIDS CORNER

### Word Search

Suggested for: 3rd & 4th Grade

P X S B Z P N Y V X V V Q R K T K Y V E  
 B K F T G Z T J I K N Z B H H Y V X F O  
 X A A N O I T U L L O P I T Y P U N Q O  
 Y M U F A C T O R Y P H E A L T H Y U N  
 I H X B O P J F F X B H H N S N L B T S  
 M T N A E L C Y Q F V H T L P O T U F F  
 G S M S V F E C W I C W A K O I V R G J  
 T A M Z U S B D T V I I E P F C A R C J  
 U N B O K B Y R C P F M R I O L T P K X  
 H W A O G W H Z M C G A B Q O V Y E J X  
 Q L H L R S L D P G C U I S A Z B P N S  
 T K Q E P G Q V F Z C V U R Q O Q J W V  
 P S U M T A F E I F A R C S U Q F R F P  
 P O G C C L L M Z C V D R F C G G I B Y  
 L N Z E D F V J T Z A E R J S I N U B K  
 Z D A C U H X L C Y C T T A V N E E R G  
 X Q S U J P L Y K Y T J H I I V S N P O  
 Y Z P D Y P M V C Q P H J P V U W I C E  
 V Q V E H I C L E P B Q N K E Q X P S E  
 R X E R J L E S Z X Y H P R E W T B O K

CLEAN  
 HEALTHY  
 REUSE  
 SMOG  
 SOLAR  
 FLAGS

POLLUTION  
 FACTORY  
 PLANT  
 RECYCLE  
 VEHICLE  
 GREEN

CARPOOL  
 REDUCE  
 SCIENCE  
 ASTHMA  
 BREATHE  
 AIR



## WILDFIRE SEASON

Recently, major wildfires affected air quality in California. The Bobcat Fire in the Angeles National Forest (near Azusa, Duarte, Monrovia, and Arcadia), the El Dorado Fire in the San Bernardino Mountains (above Yucaipa in San Bernardino County) and Snow Fire in the San Jacinto Wilderness (near Cabazon in Riverside County) are three examples of fires that have affected our region. The fires produced heavy smoke and many areas reported falling ash and reduced visibility. If you smell smoke or see ash during a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter, and avoid vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a wildfire, see South Coast AQMD’s Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page: [www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips)

For current air quality maps and conditions, visit South Coast AQMD’s website at: [www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/air-quality-forecasts](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/air-quality-forecasts)

## MOBILE APP

For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: [www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp](http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp)

# DO ONE THING FOR CLEAN AIR



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IN SPANISH

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# TODAY!

A ONE-STOP APP FOR

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- Report a Complaint
- Alternative Fuel Locations
- Weather



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**App Store**



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## Call for Submissions!

Do you have an idea for an article, information on an upcoming meeting, or an environmental justice story? Please submit to [EJCP@aqmd.gov](mailto:EJCP@aqmd.gov). If your submission is selected, South Coast AQMD reserves the right to print pending review by our legal department.



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