

VALLEY AIR DISTRICT asks public to be mindful of air quality during Back-to-School

During the Back-to-School period, ozone levels tend to rise due to increased vehicle traffic. Parents can help reduce vehicle emissions by carpooling and refraining from vehicle idling during school pick-ups and drop-offs. In addition, Valley residents are urged to reduce vehicle emissions by driving less, driving electric or other fuel-efficient vehicles, and avoiding the use of drive-through services. This is especially important as multiple wildfires are impacting Valley air quality and the public's help is crucial in preventing spikes in ground-level ozone and exceedances of federal air quality standards.

All Valley residents can check current, localized air quality by visiting myraan.com or downloading the free Valley Air app from the Apple Store or Google Play. Additionally, during wildfire events, Valley residents can check www.valleyair.org/wildfires for information about current wildfires, hourly air quality data, health protective tips and a link to temporary air monitors in the mountain and foothill communities.

For more information, call the Valley Air District office in Bakersfield at (661) 392-5500.