



Air Quality Subcommittee (AQS)

January 13, 2009

Pima Association of Governments
177 N. Church Ave., Suite 405
Tucson, AZ 85701

Announcements

CONTENTS

[Advisories](#)

[Events of Interest](#)

[Resources](#)

[Grants](#)

[Federal Registers and Regulatory Notices](#)

[Documents](#)

The above list is hyperlinked to sections of the document. To move directly to that section, hold down control and click on the item of interest.

ADVISORIES - None

EVENTS OF INTEREST

Adaptation to Climate Change in the Desert Southwest: Impacts and Opportunities

Hosted by the University of Arizona, Institute for the Study of Planet Earth. **Jan. 22 - 23, 2009**. Westward Look Resort Tucson, <http://www.law.arizona.edu/adaptationconference/> for conference info and registration.

PAG's Beat Back Buffelgrass Day

The second annual buffelgrass regional event to gather volunteers from across the Tucson Basin to remove buffelgrass will take place on **Feb. 7, 2009**, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Last year's event was a success and resulted in removing 4,000 plants by well over 200 volunteers. Locations will be posted on www.buffelgrass.org. For more information, contact Dennis Dickerson at 792-1093 or ddickerson@pagnet.org

Sustainability and Energy EXP09

PAG's 2nd EXPO will be held on **March 6-7, 2009**, at the Tucson Convention Center. The event drew over 4,000 attendees in 2007, and in 2009, the Sustainability and Energy EXPO: *Building a Community* is expected to increase in numbers and interest. Applications are currently being accepted for sponsors and exhibitors – space sold out in 2007. For details, please see www.TucsonAltEnergyExpo.com

Navigating the American Carbon World Conference

The California Registry's annual conference will be held on **April 1-3, 2009**, at the San Diego Marriott Hotel and Marina. <http://www.climateregistry.org/events/annual-conference.html>

International Emissions Inventory Conference

The EPA's 18th Annual International Emissions Inventory Conference will be held at the Hilton Baltimore in Baltimore, Maryland on **April 14 -17, 2009**.
<http://www.epa.gov/ttn/chief/conference/ei18/index.html>

2009 NAEP 34th Annual Conference

The National Association of Environmental Professionals is hosting a conference "*Making Sustainability Happen: Goals, Practices, and Challenges*". **May 3-6, 2009**. Radisson Fort McDowell Resort, Scottsdale, AZ. www.naep.org

Association for Behavior Analysis convention focuses on global warming

The Association for Behavior Analysis is holding its 35th Annual Convention at the Phoenix Convention Center on **May 22-26, 2009**. The convention will include programs related to the problem of global warming. One of the goals is to raise interest among behavior analysts in developing programs to change behavior related to the use of energy. Contact Mark Mattaini (mattaini@earthlink.net). <http://abainternational.org>.

RESOURCES

Trees for Tucson Program - more trees available

Tucson Clean & Beautiful now has even more low-cost trees available for Tucson area residents to plant at their homes. For homeowners living in residences built in 1980 or after, the Trees for Tucson program can continue to provide up to two trees to help shade and beautify your home. For the first time, older homes built in 1979 or before are now eligible to receive up to four trees, to help further reduce energy usage. Visit www.treesfortucson.org for more information on how you can plant trees, support additional community tree planting and much more.

EPA and DOE's National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency

EPA and U.S. Department of Energy are helping states lead the way in an effort to promote low-cost energy efficiency. More than 60 energy, environmental and state policy leaders from across the country have come together to produce the updated *National Action Plan Vision for 2025: A Framework for Change*. The action plan outlines strategies to help lower the growth in energy demand across the country by more than 50 percent, and shows ways to save more than \$500 billion in net savings over the next 20 years. These actions may help to reduce annual greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 90 million vehicles. Contact: Cathy Milbourn, (202) 564-4355; milbourn.cathy@epa.gov; the documents and the action plan are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/eeactionplan>

EPA Lead Exposure Information

EPA provides information to educate parents and children about the dangers of lead exposure, especially lead-paint hazards in housing and renovation.

http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/names/hq_2008-10-20_Lead_Poisoning

EPA Guides on Energy Efficient Vehicles

Car Shoppers can use the 2009 Fuel Economy Guide to help save money and time by providing fuel economy estimates based on revised test methods implemented in model year 2008, which better reflect "real world" driving conditions.

http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/names/hq_2008-10-15_2009_Fuel_Economy_Guide

EPA Air Emissions Data Sources:

- Use eGrid to check air emissions data on nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon dioxide and mercury. The updated eGRID also provides emissions data on two greenhouse gases: methane and nitrous oxide. http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/names/hq_2008-10-16_eGRID

- The public can learn about climate change, its effects on children's health, and actions you can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/names/hq_2008-10-6_Child_Health_Day

Standby Power and Energy Vampires

EPA encourages everyone to look for ways to reduce energy use from products that are not in use but still plugged into a power source. Information is provided at:

<http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=about.vampires>

EPA Guide to Help Businesses Confront Climate Challenge

EPA in cooperation with the Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) organization produced a new report, *A Business Guide to U.S. EPA Climate Partnership Programs*, for businesses committed to addressing the risks and opportunities associated with climate change. The guide features profiles on 35 EPA climate-change related partnership programs, as well as a table for companies to look up programs most appropriate for their industry and business objectives. For copies of this guide and for more information about EPA Partnership Programs: <http://www.epa.gov/partners>; Contact: Marilyn Franklin, 202-564-4355; franklin.marilyn@epa.gov. For more information about BSR:

<http://www.bsr.org>

Border Climate Summary

The report is written in both English and Spanish and focuses on the southwestern United States and four northern Mexican states: Sonora, Sinaloa, Baja California, and Chihuahua. The summary is produced by the Climate Assessment for the Southwest (CLIMAS) project and the Institute for the Study of Planet Earth (ISPE) at The University of Arizona and collaborators from Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (CICESE) in Baja California.

http://www.climas.arizona.edu/forecasts/BorderClimateSummary_July08.pdf

NOAA National Climate and Environmental Information

The National Weather Service (NOAA) provides national climate, air quality forecasts, fire, flood, wind and storm warning information at: <http://www.weather.gov/aq>

Governor's Gas Saving Toolkit

Web site features ways to find the nearest, cheapest gas, estimates of the gas costs of road trips, tips on saving gas and alternatives to driving, such as carpools or mass transit.

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GasTips.asp>

Air Quality Index (AQI) Forecast

Members of the public can receive daily e-mail updates of the air quality forecast by subscribing and following the directions on "EnviroFlash" at: <http://www.airnow.gov/>.

Recent improvements to EnviroFlash make it easier to use. Enter: the name, e-mail address, and ZIP code and EnviroFlash will find the nearest local forecast. The information can be customized to select a specific forecast to be received, such as for "code red" days only.

EPA Environmental Indicators Gateway

The Environmental Indicators Gateway features information on EPA's [environmental indicator](#) projects. These projects provide information on environmental conditions and trends over a range of geographic scales and time periods. The Gateway provides summaries of the indicator projects and links to the related reports and Web sites developed by each project. You can search these summaries by geographic location, keyword and topic. <http://www.epa.gov/indicators/>

2008 Annual Progress Reports for EPA's Southwest Region

Each year EPA's Pacific Southwest Region faces many challenges and achieves significant accomplishments. Information in the report covers efforts by federal, state, local and tribal partners to clean our air, water and land, and to restore wetlands, respond to emergencies, and promote sustainable agriculture. The report is available online at: www.epa.gov/region9/annualreport

GRANTS

2009 Urban Forestry Grant Program Request for Proposals

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council seeks to establish sustainable urban and community forests, by encouraging communities of all sizes to manage and protect their natural resources. The funds will be divided into two categories: Innovation and Best Practices Innovation Grants. Priority areas for these grants include: energy conservation, climate change and public health. The following organizations are eligible: state, county city governments, school districts, public and state controlled institutions of higher learning, Native American tribal organizations and nonprofits. Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-FS-2009. Deadline: **Feb. 17, 2009**. <http://www.fs.fed.us/ucf/nucfac>

AZAEP Future Environmental Professional 2009 Scholarship application

The Arizona Association of Environmental Professionals (AZAEP) seeks outstanding students for the Future Environmental Professionals Scholarship. At least two scholarships of \$1,000 each, plus a one-year student membership in AZAEP and NAEP (National AEP) will be awarded. The objective of the scholarship is to assist undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled full-time in an accredited Arizona college or university to complete a degree program in preparation for a career as an environmental professional. Students must be enrolled full-time and not be graduating in spring or summer 2009. All application materials must be postmarked by **Feb. 21, 2009**. Contact Marcie Martin, Scholarship Selection Committee Chairperson, at 480-940-2320, ext 129 or marcie.martin@amec.com

EPA 2009 CARE Grant

Around \$3 million will be available in 2009 to support community-based partnerships to reduce pollution. Eligible applicants include county and local governments, tribes, non-profit organizations and universities. Deadline: **March 16, 2009**. EPA will conduct three conference calls, **Feb. 3, 24 and 27**, for prospective applicants to ask questions about the application process. To register for the upcoming CARE Internet Seminar for either of the above dates, please go to: <http://www.cluin.org/studio/seminar.cfm>. Additional information about the CARE program, previous cooperative agreement recipients, and applying for the 2009 grants is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/care>

Middle School Sustainability Challenge

The Siemens Foundation invites middle school students to participate in the *We Can Change the World Challenge*. Through this national sustainability education initiative, students are challenged to create sustainable, reproducible environmental improvements in their local communities. Responses due **March 15, 2009**. <http://www.wecanchange.com/about-challenge/challenge-description/>

Grant.gov Web site

Information about applying for competitive federal grants can be located through the Web site www.grants.gov. This Web site allows organizations to find and apply for more than \$400 billion in federal grants. A full description of the program as well as a web cast describing how to use the resource is available on the Web site.

FEDERAL REGISTERS AND REGULATORY NOTICES

Federal Level

EPA's Measures to Help Accelerate the Phase Out of Ozone Depleting Chemicals

EPA is taking the next step to eliminate harmful hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) emissions, which are ozone-depleting substances and potent greenhouse gases. The proposed rule would decrease the consumption and production of HCFCs for the years 2010 to 2014. Consumption and production will be reduced by at least 75 percent in 2010. As a party to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, the U.S. will completely phase out HCFCs in 2030.

This action also will amend provisions concerning HCFC production for developing countries' basic domestic needs and would clarify a ban on the sale and distribution of HCFCs through interstate commerce under the Clean Air Act. EPA will accept comments on the proposed rule for 60 days after publication in the Federal Register. Contact: Cathy Milbourn, (202) 564-4355 /7849. milbourn.cathy@epa.gov (12/12/08)

Diagnostic Systems on Highway Heavy-duty Engines - Final Rule

EPA issued regulations requiring onboard diagnostic systems on highway heavy-duty engines used in large and small trucks. EPA is issuing a final rule to require Onboard Diagnostic (OBD) systems on heavy-duty engines used in vehicles weighing over 14,000 pounds. In addition, EPA is making changes to existing requirements for diesel highway heavy-duty vehicles under 14,000 pounds. EPA has established a public docket (Docket No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0047) to view public comments and to access documents related to the development of the final rule. To access the docket from this link, select Advanced Search, then Docket Search, and then type EPA-HQ-OAR-2005-0047 as the Docket ID. <http://www.epa.gov/obd/regtech/heavy.htm> (12/4/08)

Renewable Fuel Standard Increased for 2009

The 2009 renewable fuel standard (RFS) will be 10.21 percent to ensure that at least 11.1 billion gallons of renewable fuels be blended into transportation gasoline. The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA) established the annual overall renewable fuel volume targets, reaching a level of 36 billion gallons in 2022. Based on the standard, each refiner, importer and non-oxygenate blender of gasoline determines the minimum volume of renewable fuel that it must ensure is used in motor vehicle fuel. The 2008 standard was 7.76 percent, equating to roughly 9 billion gallons.

Separately, EPA is developing a proposed rule to implement other RFS program changes and analyses mandated by EISA. Contact Information: Cathy Milbourn (202) 564-4355; milbourn.cathy@epa.gov; <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/renewablefuels/index.htm> (11-14-08)

Revised U.S. Air Quality Standards for Lead

EPA dramatically strengthened the nation's air quality standards for lead, improving public health protection, especially for children. The new standards tighten the allowable lead level 10 times to 0.15 micrograms of lead per cubic meter of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). EPA's action sets two standards: a primary standard at 0.15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to protect health and a secondary standard at the same level to protect the public welfare, including the environment. The previous standards, set in 1978, were 1.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. EPA will designate areas that must take additional steps to reduce lead air emissions by October 2011. States have five years to meet these new standards after designations take effect. Contact: Cathy Milbourn, (202) 564-4355; milbourn.cathy@epa.gov. <http://www.epa.gov/air/lead> (10/15/08)

Wall Street Rescue Plan Includes Tax Credit for Bike Commuters

In a bonus for bike commuters, the \$700 billion Wall Street rescue plan Treasury Congress approved Oct. 3 as the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, carried along a \$20-a-month tax-free reimbursement for biking to work, an employer expense deductible from federal tax

beginning next year. <http://www.smartgrowth.org/news/newsmail.asp?art=6836&state=52>
(10/08)

Arizona

PDEQ Title 17 Revision

The draft document for the Title 17 reorganization is now available for review. In addition, a reference table has been provided to track the current section numbers and the proposed sections numbers. <http://www.deq.pima.gov/air/RulesRegulationsPublicNotices.htm>. Please forward any comments or questions to Mukonde Chama at Mukonde.chama@deq.pima.gov or Teresa Sobolewski at Teresa.Sobolewski@deq.pima.gov.

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States. DOE/EIA.Dec. 2008.
<ftp://ftp.eia.doe.gov/pub/oiarf/1605/cdrom/pdf/ggrpt/057307.pdf>.

Annual Methane to Markets Partnership Report. EPA. Nov. 2008.
<http://www.epa.gov/methanetomarkets/accomporeport.htm>

EPA's Annual Air Quality Trends 1990-2007. Nov. 2008.
<http://www.epa.gov/air/airtrends/2008/report/TrendsReportfull.pdf>

EPA 2008 Performance and Accountability Report. Nov. 2008.
<http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/par/2008par/index.htm>

2007 Progress Report: Vehicle and Engine Compliance Activities. Oct. 2008.
<http://www.epa.gov/otaq/oms-def.htm>

EPA's Children's Environmental Health: 2008 Highlights. Oct. 2008.
[http://yosemite.epa.gov/oehp/ochpweb.nsf/content/2008_highlights.htm/\\$file/OCHP_2008_Highlights_508.pdf](http://yosemite.epa.gov/oehp/ochpweb.nsf/content/2008_highlights.htm/$file/OCHP_2008_Highlights_508.pdf)

2005 State Energy-Related Carbon Dioxide Estimates. EIA. Oct. 2008.
<http://www.eia.doe.gov/environment.html>

2008 Report on the Environment. EPA. Sept. 2008. <http://www.epa.gov/roe>

Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2006. April 2008. USEPA #430-R-08-005. <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/usinventoryreport.html>