



Conservation Management Practice Program

What is the Conservation Management Practice Program and why it is needed?

It is a San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) program with the purpose of reducing fugitive dust emissions from agricultural sources through Conservation Management Practices (CMPs). The San Joaquin Valley Basin was designated as serious nonattainment for particulate matter smaller than 10 microns in size (PM10) and was required by federal laws to implement Best Available Control Measures on all significant sources of emissions. The CMP Program implements Best Available Control Measures on agricultural sources to achieve PM10 emission reductions.

The Conservation Management Practices Program (CMP Program) began on July 1, 2004. Participation in the CMP Program is required for those subject to Rule 4550, but the operators can select practices most appropriate for their operation. Operators must submit and implement a CMP Plan. One CMP must be selected for each identified CMP category.

What is Rule 4550?

The CMP Program includes required provisions that are contained in District Rule 4550 (Conservation Management Practices). This rule requires growers and animal feeding operations to implement a CMP plan to reduce dust emissions from land preparation and harvest activities, and unpaved roads and equipment yards. A CMP plan may be modified at anytime when a practice or crop has changed, or when ownership or operator has changed.

Who must provide a CMP Plan?

- 1) Owners/operators who grow field crops on 100 acres or greater of contiguous farmland
- 2) Owners/operators of dairy and feedlot facilities with
 - ≥ 500 mature dairy cows (whether milked or dry), or
 - ≥ 190 cattle (other than mature dairy cows or veal calves)
- 3) Other animal feeding operations not exempt from Rule 4550

A copy of Ag CMP handbook, and Rule 4550 can be found at www.valleyair.org under Agriculture-Ag Permits/CMP, and Rules & Regulations-Current Rules, respectively. If you have any questions, please contact the District's Small Business Assistance at the following telephone numbers:

Modesto Office 209-557-6446

Fresno Office 550-230-5888

Bakersfield Office 661-392-5665