



# Who We Are and What We Do...

The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is a local government agency that works to protect the people and the environment of Santa Barbara County from harmful effects of air pollution. The APCD controls stationary sources of air pollution. In California, the state controls cars and trucks and other mobile sources of air pollution.

**The APCD Board of Directors**, made up of the five county supervisors, plus a representative from each of the county's eight cities, oversees APCD programs and operations.

**The APCD Hearing Board**, made up of five members appointed by the APCD Board of Directors, makes decisions on permit appeals and revocations, variances, and abatement orders.

**The APCD Community Advisory Council**, made up of community members appointed by each Board Member, reviews rules and clean air plans, and advises the APCD Board.

**APCD staff** is organized into two main technical divisions:

### Engineering and Compliance

- issues and enforces permits
- works with and inspects businesses;
- responds to complaints
- implements the federal Title V program for large sources of air pollution and the state's "Hot Spots" program for sources of toxic air pollution.

### Technology and Environmental Assessment

- monitors the air
- develops emissions inventories and emissions-based fees
- prepares clean air plans; develops rules
- implements clean air technologies
- reviews environmental documents for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act
- helps businesses prevent pollution
- educates businesses and the public about our air and how we can keep it clean.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is APCD a County Agency?

No. In 1995, we became an independent special district.

### What territory does APCD cover?

Our jurisdiction applies to the entire county (including the incorporated cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Guadalupe, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, and Solvang). We also have jurisdiction over waters up to three miles off the county's shore.

### How is our air quality?

Levels of ozone, a primary component of smog, have been going down over the past decades. However, our air does not currently meet state standards for ozone and particulate matter.

### What are the major sources of air pollution here?

Cars and trucks are a major source of smog-forming air pollution onshore in our county. Other pollution sources include businesses and industrial operations, facilities using solvents or toxic air pollutants, and operations that use combustion devices such as engines, boilers, and flares. Large ships passing through the Santa Barbara Channel also produce significant amounts of pollution, and shipping traffic is projected to increase a great deal in the future.



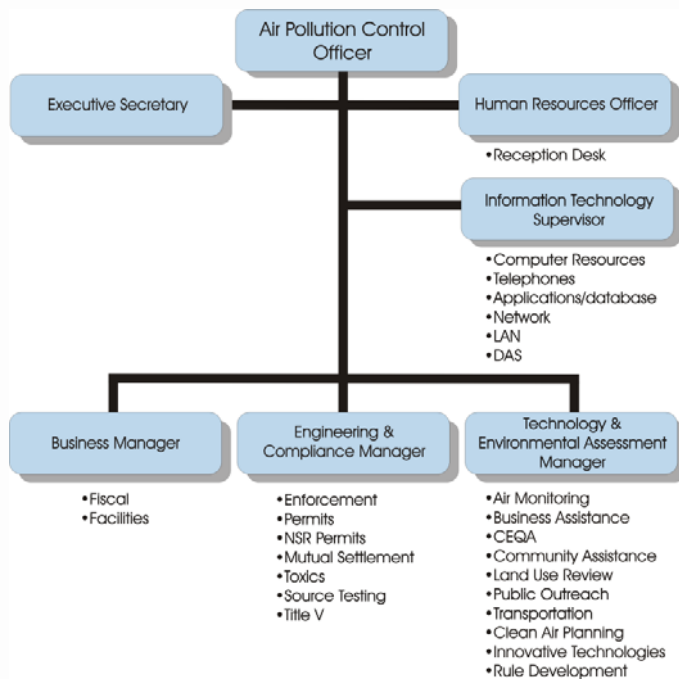
## What We Regulate... and What We Don't

APCD is responsible for regulating *stationary* sources of outdoor air pollution in the county — in California, the state Air Resources Board is responsible for regulating cars and trucks and other *mobile* sources. APCD's regulations do not cover indoor air quality.

Air pollution sources need an APCD permit before constructing, changing, replacing, or operating any equipment or process that may cause air pollution. Examples of businesses that need APCD permits are oil and gas facilities, gas stations, dry cleaners, auto body shops, refinishing operations, printers, and operators of certain gas or oil powered combustion devices. Certain agricultural businesses are also regulated by APCD; State Senate Bill 700 removed a permit exemption for agriculture. APCD also enforces federal laws covering asbestos.

Historically, APCD has regulated air pollutants that impact human health. Many of the industries that APCD regulates also emit greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, that contribute to global climate change. As state and federal programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions are introduced, APCD regulations and permits will be revised to reflect additional standards for greenhouse gas pollutants.

## How We're Organized



## Highlights

### Awards and Recognition

APCD's Santa Barbara Car Free project received a Clean Air Excellence award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in 2010. APCD has won a number of state and federal awards over the years, including the 1996 Presidential Award for Sustainable Development, the 1996 California Governor's Environmental-Economic Leadership Award, and the 1999 USEPA Region IX Earth Day Award for our innovative technologies programs. APCD's Santa Barbara Car Free project won the 2004 Environmental Award from USEPA Region IX and the 2004 Marketing Excellence Award from the California Travel and Tourism Commission.

### Innovative Technologies Group (ITG)

The ITG group works to reduce air pollution in Santa Barbara County with voluntary programs that provide funding to upgrade or replace polluting equipment. Example projects include helping county farmers replace water pump engines, funding retrofit or replacement of commercial fishing vessel engines, and funding new school buses or school bus engines.

### Marine Shipping

Marine shipping is a major source of uncontrolled air pollution in Santa Barbara County. APCD is working to raise awareness of the problem and develop pilot projects with partners.

## You Can Learn More...

Visit our website at [www.OurAir.org](http://www.OurAir.org), or call us at (805) 961-8800. Businesses can call our Business Assistance Line at (805) 961-8868.