



# About the Air District

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## What is the Air Pollution Control District?

The District is a government agency that regulates sources of air pollution within San Diego County. The County Board of Supervisors sits as the Air Pollution Control Board.

## What is the District's mission?

Its mission is to protect the public from the harmful effects of air pollution, achieve and maintain air quality standards, foster community involvement, and develop and implement cost-effective programs meeting state and federal mandates, considering environmental and economic impacts.

## How does the District accomplish this mission?

This is accomplished through an integrated monitoring, engineering and compliance operation. Each of the District's divisions plays a key role in protecting the public from the adverse impacts of polluted air.

The District's **Engineering** Division evaluates and issues air quality permits to ensure that proposed new or modified commercial and industrial equipment and operations comply with air pollution control laws. Permits are required for any operation or equipment capable of emitting air contaminants. Engineering also develops air quality rules, prepares stationary source emission inventories, implements air toxic emissions inventory and control programs, and evaluates special projects that may impact air quality.

The **Monitoring & Technical Services** Division maintains the ambient air monitoring network and records air quality readings and forecasts on a 24-hour phone message line (858) 586-2800 and on the District's web site ([www.sdapcd.org](http://www.sdapcd.org)). Agricultural burn permit holders can also find out whether air quality conditions permit or prohibit open burning. Monitoring also performs and witnesses laboratory and field testing of stationary sources of air pollution.

The District's **Compliance** Division ensures that regulated sources operate in compliance with permit conditions and all applicable regulations. Field staff inspect both permitted and non-permitted sources of air contaminants and investigate citizen complaints on air quality matters. In addition, this division helps industry understand and comply with District rules and state law. Advisories are sent when new rules are adopted to explain the new requirements to all those affected. Formal training and individual assistance are also provided.

**Air Resources & Strategy Development** (ARSD) prepares long-term regional plans to reduce unhealthful pollution levels. Specific strategies and control measures are developed and implemented to achieve clean air standards set by the federal and state governments. ARSD also participates with transportation agencies to ensure regional transportation projects are designed to achieve air quality standards.

In addition to handling clerical and support functions for the other District divisions, **Administrative Services** administers funds that are used to reduce regional mobile source emissions.

## How can I reach the District?

The main phone number for the District is (858) 586-2600. District offices are located in the Scripps Ranch area at 10124 Old Grove Road, San Diego. Offices hours are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The District's web site address is [www.sdapcd.org](http://www.sdapcd.org).