

Indoor Air Quality Handout and Display Table

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As part of its mission, the Air Resources Board (ARB's) has published guidelines and public education materials for the public to advise them on ways they can reduce or avoid exposure to air pollutants from many common indoor sources. The guidelines address several types of indoor air pollutants, including formaldehyde, combustion pollutants such as carbon monoxide, and chlorinated chemicals such as perchloroethylene. Fact sheets and brochures provide information on the effectiveness of different types of air cleaning devices, and general strategies to reduce indoor pollutant levels and the health risks from indoor pollutants. Summaries of the recent findings of research studies on air pollution and children's respiratory health will also be available.

Additionally, several types of monitoring devices used to measure indoor and personal air pollutant concentrations will be on display. These devices are unique in that they must be quiet, small, portable, and, in the case of personal monitors, must be able to be worn without interfering with a person's normal activities. Some of these devices are miniaturized versions of larger monitors that are used to measure the outdoor air; however, some use different techniques to measure pollutant concentrations. Examples of the types of monitors planned for display include carbon monoxide detectors, volatile organic chemical (VOC) badges, formaldehyde tubes, radon alpha track and charcoal samplers, and, if available, a recently developed continuous indoor nitrogen dioxide monitor. Most of these devices require that the sample be sent to a laboratory for analysis, and so the results are not available immediately. The ARB is spearheading research that aims to develop lower cost, user friendly monitors that will provide results much sooner than the available methods.