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Message to the Public from the Director

2010 marks the 43rd year that Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency has been partnering with you to improve the air quality in Yakima County. Your agency was activated in July, 1967 as the Yakima County Clean Air Authority, per the 1967 Washington Clean Air Act. In 2008, we changed our name to Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency.

During the early years our focus was primarily on orchard heating and the black smoke clouds created in the springtime. Also addressed, were the visible sources of pollution like the various types of outdoor burning of both natural vegetation and garbage, dust created by various activities, the smokestacks of industry, and the smokey chimneys of wood stoves.

It is remarkable just how far we as a community have come in improving the air quality in all of Yakima County and its surrounding areas. However, this doesn't mean our work is done and we can "rest on our laurels." Due to rising energy costs, wood stove use has increased in the last few years. A new, more stringent, federal standard for fine particulate (primarily soot and smoke) was established in December 2006 to be more protective of public health. Effectively, the "bar has been raised." As our population has grown and will continue to grow, emissions from wood stoves, cars, trucks, and businesses are added to our airshed.

To continue our progress and maintain healthful air quality for current and future generations, we will need to work as partners with you, the residents and businesses, making daily decisions to collectively improve the quality of the air we share. We'll be challenged to find ways to maintain our air quality within Federal, health-based standards. Also, we will be required to do our part to slow and ultimately reverse global climate change.

On behalf of our dedicated and hard working staff, Board of Directors and partners, I remain confident that you will not back down from the present challenges and those the future will bring. After all, you haven't yet. Thank you for all you've done and will do to make Yakima County a great place to breathe.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary W. Pruitt".

Gary W. Pruitt
Executive Director

Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency

“An unceasing commitment to build and maintain partnerships in the continuous improvement of air quality for all current and future generations of Yakima County”

Board of Directors

Tom Gasseling, Chair, Member-at-Large
Kevin Bouchey, Vice Chair, County Commissioner
Dick Camp, Yakima County Representative
Bill Lover, City of Yakima Representative
Bob Jones, Small Cities Representative

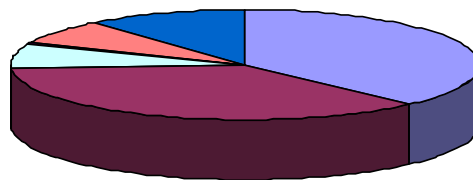
Agency Staff

Michelle Blanchard, Receptionist and Woodstove Change-out Coordinator
Carl Brookshire, Information Technology Manager
Dave Caprile, Public Information Manager
Mark Edler, Emission Reductions Project Manager
Jenny Filipy, Engineer
Dustin Harrington, Complaints Program Manager
Keith Hurley, Compliance and Air Monitoring Division Supervisor
Ron Gray, Enterprise Program Manager
Lyne Monroe, Fiscal Programs Manager
Christa Owen, Fiscal Programs Assistant
Alisa Patino, Engineering and Planning Division Assistant
Hasan Tahat, Engineering and Planning Division Supervisor
Patty Walker, Office and Human Resource Manager

Agency Funding

Our 2010 fiscal year budget is approximately \$1.2 million. Our funding comes from a variety of sources, most of them local. Yakima County and its cities and towns contribute to the work we do on behalf of their citizens through an annual assessment pursuant to the state’s Clean Air Act. Permit and registration fees from local businesses provide significantly to our funding. We also receive funds through federal and state grants.

FY 2010 Revenue



■ All Permit Fee Revenue, 37.7%	■ Total Grants, 36.3%	■ Fines & Penalties, .2%
■ Supplemental Income, 6.9%	■ Other Income, .4%	■ Enterprise, 7.4%
■ Prior-Year Carry Over Funds, 11%		