



ANTI-IDLING INFORMATION



As a member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partners for Climate Protection program the Municipality of Saanich is committed to finding ways to minimize the effects our operations have on our environment.

In 2003 the Municipality adopted an anti-idling policy to eliminate the needless idling of Municipal vehicles. Employees are required to turn off their vehicle engines whenever possible to avoid unnecessary idling.

Idling vehicles wastes fuel, pollutes our environment and gets us nowhere.

The most common times when vehicles are left to idle include;

- When parked for short durations
- When picking up passengers
- At the beginning of the day

There are times, such as when in traffic, that turning off your vehicle is not appropriate, however if we all do our part and “turn it off” whenever possible we will make a difference.

Did you know?

- Canadians voluntarily allow their vehicles to idle for 10 minutes each day. This is equal to one vehicle idling for 144 years.
- Every litre of gasoline burned in a vehicle's engine produces approximately 2.4 kilograms of carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- CO₂ is the principal green house gas contributing to climate change.
- If every Canadian stopped idling their vehicles for 5 minutes each day we could prevent 1.4 million tonnes of CO₂ from entering our atmosphere.

For Our Air

- **You will save money.** Reduced fuel usage means reduced fuel costs. Idling for 10 minutes per day uses approximately 100 litres of fuel a year.
- **You will breathe easier.** By turning your ignition off, you and others around you won't have to breathe in unhealthy exhaust fumes from a vehicle that is going nowhere.
- **You will spare the air.** You will reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to problems such as climate change.

Common misconceptions about idling vehicles

A vehicle needs to be warmed up before driving.

- This popular idea is incorrect. Modern vehicles do not require more than 30 seconds to warm up. In fact the best way to warm up your vehicle is to drive it slowly for the first kilometre.

Idling an engine is good for it.

- Vehicle engines do not benefit from idling. In fact excessive idling will harm some engines such as those that use diesel fuel.



Repeat starting uses less fuel than letting the vehicle idle.

Repeat starting of an engine has little impact on the engine components. Idling a vehicle for 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting it.

If we all do our part and “turn it off” whenever possible we will make a difference

For more information visit
<http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca>