

Vehicle Idling Fact Sheet

Did you know?

- Each of us takes 20,000 breaths, equal to 3,400 gallons of air, each day.
- Children breathe 50 percent more air per pound than adults.
- Asthma is the third leading cause of hospitalization among children under the age of 15. It is also the most common chronic illness and the cause of most school absences.
- Children's asthma symptoms increase as a result of car exhaust.
- Carbon monoxide reduces the ability of blood to bring oxygen to body cells and tissues.
- Exposure to vehicle exhaust increases the risk of death from heart and lung disease and lung cancer.
- Vehicle exhaust is the leading source of toxic air pollution.
- Idling consumes up to one gallon of fuel per hour and wastes more fuel than turning off and on your vehicle engine.
- Frequent restarting of a vehicle's engine has little impact on engine components like battery and starter motor. Wear caused by restarting is estimated to add \$10 per year to the cost of driving, money likely recovered several times over in fuel savings.

To learn more about air pollution, its effects and what you can do, visit www.earthday.net/noidling.

Coordinated by Oak Park Unified School District's Environmental Education and Awareness Committee
www.oakparkusd.org/eeac