

Idle Free Schools

Why Not Idle?

Car exhaust contains **air toxics**, which are known to cause cancer, respiratory effects, reproductive effects, birth defects or other serious health effects.



Because of their developing lungs and higher breathing rates, **children are more susceptible** to air pollution.

If many vehicles are idling at once, for example in school pick up/drop off areas, a “hot spot” of exhaust pollution can be created.

Monitoring at schools has shown **elevated levels of air toxics** during the afternoon hour coinciding with parents picking up their children.

Idling Facts



The chemicals from exhaust are harmful and can make **asthma** worse.

Most people waste 1-2 entire tankfuls of gas every year by idling.

Ford Motor Company says: “Avoid idling more than 30 seconds because excessive idling can actually **damage your engine.**”

Idling more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine.

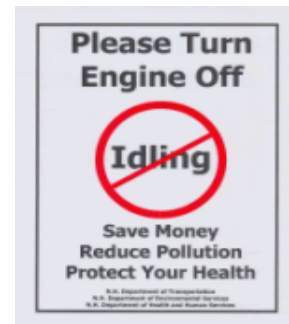
Manufacturers assure that frequent restarting won't harm an engine.

What can you do?

If you are going to wait more than 10 seconds, turn your vehicle off.

It's as **simple** as that.

Pledge to not idle unnecessarily anyplace, anytime.



Reducing idling at schools can **reduce children's exposure** to toxic vehicle exhaust.

For more information: visit www.epa.gov/region8/air/idlefree schools.html

**Turn the Key,
Be Idle Free!!**