

Anti-Idling 101

A Program of the Nashua Green Team



November 2006



What is the Anti-Idling Campaign?

The Anti-Idling Campaign is a project of the Nashua Green Team which is focused on reducing unnecessarily idling of cars, trucks and busses in Nashua. This is accomplished by educating municipal employees, parents, teachers, students, bus drivers and the general public by placing signs in public areas to remind drivers to turn off their engines when the vehicle is not in use.

What is the Nashua Green Team?

The Nashua Green Team is a combined effort of city departments, municipal officials, non-profit organizations, business leaders, and Nashua citizens. The Green Team is resolved to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions in Nashua, increase energy efficiency, decrease air pollution, and reduce municipal energy expenditures through programs like the Anti-Idling Campaign. Every month the Green Team meets to discuss what the City is currently doing and what we could be doing different to address air pollution and energy efficiency. The Team is currently working on an action plan that will include recommendations for City departments to address energy efficiency.

Is there a State law against idling?

Actually, **YES!** A state law was passed in March 2005 to regulate emissions from diesel and gasoline-powered motor vehicles pursuant to RSA 125-C:6, XII.

NH's regulations state:

- When the temperature is above 32° F, no idling over 5 minutes.
- When the temperature is between -10° F and 32° F, no idling over 15 minutes.
- When the temperature is below -10° F, there is no limit.

Why is Nashua doing this?

Exhaust, especially diesel exhaust from vehicles like school busses, contain **harmful pollutants** that are linked to increased asthma cases and other significant health problems. These pollutants are especially harmful to children and elderly people.

In addition to the **health benefits**, here are some other great reasons to **not idle**:

- Saves gas and \$\$\$\$
- Reduces wear and tear on engines
- Improves air quality in immediate vicinity
- Reduces pollution
- Protects health of both passengers **and** drivers



What can WE do about this?

In addition to placing Anti-Idling signs in strategic locations at our schools, we encourage the following:

- Educate students and teachers about the benefits of not idling.
- Limit idling time during vehicle warm-up to 1-3 minutes
- Turn engines off when you reach your destination and when you are parked for more than 10 seconds

Teach the "10 Second" Rule!

Who can we call with Questions?

For questions about this program, here are some local, state and federal resources:

- NH Department of Environmental Services, Air Resources Division - 603-271-1370
- Nashua Green Team, Angela Vincent, 883-0366, x15
- Nashua School District, Stacy Hynes, 594-4300
- Clean School Bus USA, US EPA, www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/antiidling.htm

Green Team Meetings

are held the 3rd Thursday of the month at 3:30pm in the City Hall Auditorium.

Want to join the Nashua Green Team?

Call **Angela Vincent**,
Green Team Coordinator,
at
883-0366, x15