What is Idling?
- When a vehicle is running for non-propulsion purposes, it is idling.

Examples
- Trucks idling while in queue
- Vehicles waiting to load/unload passengers or goods, including:
  - Delivery trucks
  - Shuttle buses
  - Taxis

What vehicles Idle?
- Light Duty
  - Passenger vehicles including taxis, police cruisers, and some light trucks
- Medium Duty
  - Utility vehicles, delivery trucks, shuttle buses, and ambulances
- Heavy Duty
  - Long-haul trucks, tour buses, school buses

When is Idling difficult to avoid?
- Running emergency lights and other auxiliaries
  - Emergency vehicles, utility vehicles
- Powering HVAC
  - All vehicle types, for operator and passenger comfort in extreme weather
- Performing non-propulsion (PTO) work
  - Bucket trucks, sewer-line maintenance trucks, wood chippers

Why care about Idling?
- Idling Is Expensive
  - Idling a car wastes up to 0.5 gallons of fuel per hour
  - Idling a medium-duty truck wastes 0.4 to 0.6 gallons of fuel per hour
  - Idling in the U.S. uses more than 6 billion gallons of fuel at a cost of more than $20 billion each YEAR
  - Engine idling increases vehicle maintenance costs
  - Engine idling can shorten vehicle life

Scenario: Fleet of 10 medium-duty trucks
- If each truck has ten 10-minute idling episodes per workday, using ~0.5 gal/hr\(^1\), and fuel costs $3.50/gallon, the annual cost of idled fuel for the fleet is ~$7,550

- Idling Pollutes
  - Each gallon of fuel burned produces about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas
  - Nationally, 27% of greenhouse gas emissions come from transportation
  - Pollution from motor vehicles contributes to the formation of ground-level ozone

Idling: Quick Facts
- Idling in the U.S. uses more than 6 billion gallons of fuel at a cost of more than $20 billion each year
- Idling vehicles consume from 0.2 to 1+ gallons of fuel per hour
- Idling increases vehicle maintenance costs and can shorten engine life
- Each gallon of fuel burned produces about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas
How can you help reduce Idling?

- **Step 1: Be Aware**
  - Reducing idling saves money and protects the air
  - Turn off vehicles when not moving
  - Set policy to reduce unnecessary idling
  - Identify nonvehicle solutions when possible
  - Consider alternative power sources to provide necessary services

- **Step 2: Educate Drivers**
  - Inform your drivers about idling reduction.
  - Adopt an idling reduction policy
  - Host an idling reduction workshop for drivers
  - Post signs to remind drivers NOT to idle
  - Ask drivers to make a pledge to idling reduction
  - Offer incentives/rewards for idling reduction efforts

- **Step 3: Consider Technology**
  - Options to support your idling reduction efforts
  - Engine idle management systems
  - Heaters for cab and/or engine block
  - Auxiliary power systems
  - Electrified parking spaces

**Clean Cities can help!**

- Idling reduction cost savings calculators
- Slide presentation on idling reduction
- Presentation modules on technology solutions
- Fact sheets, signage, and poster templates
- Pledge forms and policy templates
- Funding resources for idling reduction technologies

**Simple Ways to Reduce Fleet Costs**

- In 2011, UPS reduced idling time in fleet vehicles, saving **653,000 gallons of fuel**
- In 2011, Coca-Cola saved more than **1 million gallons of fuel** over 2010 with automatic engine shut-down capabilities, along with other initiatives
- Staples has increased its **fleet’s fuel efficiency by more than 20%** with automatic idle reduction and other strategies

**Contact Sacramento Clean Cities**

- **President**, Keith Leech: leechk@saccounty.net, 916-875-5501
- **Vice-President**, Tim Taylor: ttaylor@airquality.org, 916-874-4814

Visit [www.cleancitiessacramento.org](http://www.cleancitiessacramento.org) for more information on how you can implement idle-reduction initiatives, as well as the fuel and cost-saving benefits of idle reduction!