### Puget Sound drivers travel more than 70 million miles each day!

The average American vehicle idles about 20 - 40 hours per year. That number is even higher for heavy duty diesel vehicles. That's a lot of idling vehicles and air pollution!

By not letting your engine idle and driving fewer miles, we can reduce air pollution, increase fuel economy, and decrease our dependence on fossil fuels.



#### Washington Department of Ecology Air Quality Program

Northwest Regional Office 3190 160th Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98008 <u>www.ecology.wa.gov/vehicles</u> 425-649-7000



To request ADA accommodation, call Ecology at (360) 407-6800, 711 (relay service), or (877) 833-6341 (TTY).

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# Engine Idling

- Wastes money
- Wastes fuel
- Pollutes the air
- Decreases engine life

#### Why is idling bad?

Idling vehicles increase air pollution, decrease fuel economy, and shorten the life of your engine.

**Emissions from idling vehicles** can irritate the lungs of those with asthma and can cause long-term respiratory and cardiovascular problems. They are also a major contributor to climate change.

#### What can I do?

It is best to warm up gasoline and diesel vehicles by driving them. Heat doesn't circulate through the engine when the vehicle is idling.

To defrost your windshield in the winter, you can use a scraper outside and a clean cloth inside.

## **Drive Smart!**

#### Follow these tips:

- Keep your vehicle tuned up.
- Carpool, take a bus, or ride a train.
- Walk or bike.
- Combine trips and errands.
- Avoid aggressive driving.
- Avoid speeding.
- Save fuel by removing excess weight.
- Shut the engine off after 30 seconds.



WARMING UP Even in cold weather. engines only need 30 seconds to warm up.



Turning your car off is

better for the engine than leaving it running.

#### RESTARTING

10 seconds of idling wastes more fuel than restarting.