

*It All Adds Up To Cleaner Air*



## **Idling Reduction Fact Sheet**

### **Did you know?**

- Each of us takes 20,000 breaths each day.
- The average American breathes 3,400 gallons of air a day.
- Children breathe 50 percent more air per pound than adults.
- Vehicle exhaust is the leading source of toxic air pollution in the state of Washington.
- Idling consumes anywhere from 1/2 gallon to 1 gallon of fuel per hour and wastes more fuel than turning off and on your vehicle engine.
- Diesel exhaust contains microscopic soot, a particle that is about 200 times smaller than the period at the end of this sentence.
- Diesel exhaust contains both very small particles and 40 chemicals that are classified as "hazardous air pollutants" under the Clean Air Act.
- Idling buses tend to accumulate diesel exhaust, which may be retained during the ride depending upon bus ventilation rates.
- It is more efficient to turn off most warmed-up vehicles than to idle for more than 30 seconds.
- A single vehicle dropping off and picking up kids at one school puts three pounds of pollution into the air per month.
- Carbon monoxide reduces the ability of blood to bring oxygen to body cells and tissues.
- Asthma is the third leading cause of hospitalization among children under the age of 15.
- Children's asthma symptoms increase as a result of car exhaust.
- Asthma is the most common chronic illness in children and the cause of most school absences.
- Exposure to vehicle exhaust increases the risk of death from heart and lung disease and lung cancer.