Idling Reduction
Tips to reduce vehicle idling at the workplace

Reducing idling at the workplace had many benefits. And with the price of fuel, it can be a money-saving strategy. Talk with your drivers during staff meetings or training sessions about turning engines off instead of idling. Outline the benefits of idling reduction:

- Overall fuel savings
- Longer engine life
- Less noise
- Longer time between oil and filter changes
- Better air quality and a healthier community
- Healthier work environment (loading docks, work bays, etc.)

Long-duration truck idling:
- Causes more oil and oil filter deterioration
- Increases the need for more oil and filter changes
- Lessens engine lifespan and hastens the need for engine rebuild

Long-duration truck idling annually emits:
- 11 million tons of carbon dioxide
- 180,000 tons of nitrogen oxides
- 5,000 tons of particulate matter

And idling long-haul trucks annually:
- Consume over one billion gallons of fuel
- Cost over $2 billion

Did you know…
- An idling engine delivers zero miles to the gallon.
- Vehicle exhaust is the leading source of hazardous air pollution in the state of Washington.
- Toxic air pollutants account for an additional 700 cases of cancer for every million Washington residents.
- Diesel exhaust contains microscopic soot, about 200 times smaller than the period at the end of this sentence.
- Diesel exhaust is classified as a probable human carcinogen by many governmental authorities, including the International Agency for Research on Cancer, the U.S. National Toxicology Program, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. It is classified as a known carcinogen by the state of California.
- Diesel exhaust contains both very small particles and 40 chemicals that are classified as “hazardous air pollutants” under the U.S. Clean Air Act.

Post “No-Idle Zone” signs in prominent idling areas of your facility, such as:
- Fleet yards
- Loading docks
- Your idea?

To get free “No-Idle Zone” signs for your location, the Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency considers:
- Your proposed site for effectiveness, impact
- Your commitment to post and maintain
- Our agency will follow up to assess your results

To request sign(s), e-mail: lwoodard@spokanecleanair.org.

The trucking industry has analyzed the impact of idling on engines, both in terms of maintenance and engine wear costs. According to industry estimates, long-duration idling costs the truck owner the price of almost a gallon of fuel each hour.¹

Therefore, it may be cost-effective to install on-board idle reduction technologies. Where available, encourage the use of truck stop electrification.

¹ US EPA, Smartway Program