

Policy

Environmental Policy on Idling of Vehicles

General Statement

It shall be the policy of the Town of Antigonish that unnecessary idling of vehicles shall be discouraged as much as is possible.

Environmental and Health Impacts

Motor vehicles are a major source of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, suspended particles and volatile organic compounds in the Town.

Nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds are the two main substances involved in the formation of ozone, a component of smog.

Ozone and suspended particles are included in the group of chemicals associated with significant respiratory health effects and hospital admissions.

These emissions affect the quality of life of all our citizens now and in the future and any reduction of these toxic chemicals will be of benefit to our community.

Response

All operators of Town owned vehicles and other equipment are instructed to turn off such vehicles and equipment when it is practical to do so. All idling activity is to be discouraged unless it is clearly necessary that the equipment be kept in operation. Operators will have to use their own judgement on when such equipment can be turned off keeping in mind that all reductions in emissions are beneficial.

The public at large is also being requested to reduce idling activity whenever it can. Specific businesses where vehicles are in operation within the Town on an ongoing basis will be reminded of the need to conserve fuel and to assist with emission reduction. The Town will also endeavour to make the general public aware of the need for individual participation and concern for our environment by reducing vehicle idling.

Approved by the Town Council of the Town of Antigonish on January 15, 2007.