

Care for Clean Air, Be Idle-Free!



What is Idling?



Idling is leaving a vehicle's engine running while the vehicle is not in motion, for example, waiting in a drive-thru line. Idling vehicles are harmful to the environment. They emit pollutants such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide, and volatile organic compounds into the air.

Effects



Harmful pollutants emitted from idling can cause asthma attacks, allergies, respiratory problems, decreased lung function, and other health issues. Children, elderly people, and those with pre-existing health conditions are especially vulnerable.



Idling cars use up to **½ gallon of fuel** per hour. Idling costs more than **\$20 billion** to consumers and businesses each year.

How You Can Help



Turn off your engine while waiting in drive-thru lines, curbside pickup, school pickup, or when not in traffic during a stop longer than 10 seconds.



Carpool, walk, bike, or use public transportation.



Enable your vehicle's auto stop/start feature if the technology is available.



Reduce idling time to help improve air quality and community health.

Maricopa County Air Quality Department offers resources for cities, towns, businesses, and local governments to develop idle-free plans at [Maricopa.gov/5928](https://www.maricopa.gov/5928).

Sources: [anl.gov/esia/reducing-vehicle-idling](https://www.epa.gov/esia/reducing-vehicle-idling)

