



Idling Policy

Applicability

This policy applies to all City of Concord employees that operate City-owned gasoline- or diesel-powered vehicles or equipment.

Purpose

Eliminate all unnecessary idling of City-owned vehicles and equipment to reduce the harmful emissions that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone; and, reduce overall fuel consumption.

Guidance

Except as listed in the Exemptions section, no City-operated vehicle shall be permitted to idle for prolonged periods of time. City vehicles must be turned off when engaged in the following activities:

- Loading or unloading (unless engine is required to load or unload)
- When unattended (no vehicle shall be left running while unattended)
- When parked (vehicles are not permitted to idle while parked to operate heating or air conditioning unless exempted below). In general, once a vehicle becomes stationary (longer than 2 minutes), the engine is to be turned-off unless one of the exemptions listed below apply.

Exemptions

City vehicles may idle for the following reasons:

- When idling in traffic
- To operate PTO driven equipment
- To operate electrical equipment on emergency and traffic control/safety vehicles
- To operate heating/AC on Transit, Commuter, and Airport buses for passengers
- To build air pressure for vehicles with air brakes
- To complete portions of the Pre-Ops Checklist that require engine operation
- To cool down turbo-charged diesel engines (3-5 minutes)
- To cool interior for K-9 units
- During emergency situations
- Extreme cold weather operations:
 1. To defrost windshields
 2. To warm-up turbo-charged diesel engines (3-5 minutes)
 3. Crew, passenger comfort if below 30 degrees

Violations

Co-workers that violate this policy are subject to disciplinary action. The Director of Fleet Services and the Driver/Trainer Coordinator may conduct periodic roadside and jobsite inspections to ensure compliance. Violation notices will be forwarded to the respective Department Director for appropriate action. Departmental Supervisors are also expected to perform periodic checks to help educate co-workers and to enforce this policy.

Distribution

All City co-workers that may drive a City-owned vehicle shall receive a copy of this policy.