

City of Dunedin Vehicle Anti-Idling Policy

PURPOSE:

Fossil-fuel vehicles emit pollutants include nitrogen oxide, carbon dioxide, particulate matter, and volatile organic compounds in the course of normal operation which impacts environmental air quality. Idling vehicles get zero miles per gallon while consuming approximately 17% of a vehicle's available fuel. Running an engine at low speed (idling) also causes twice the wear on internal parts compared to driving at regular speeds. Accordingly, the purpose of this policy is to lessen pollutants that are detrimental to the region's air quality, reduce unnecessary fuel consumption and the associated costs thereof, and minimize premature engine wear.

POLICY:

Effective immediately, unless exempted below, no city vehicle or piece of equipment is to be idled in a non-emergency situation. The operator of the vehicle/equipment is to turn off the unit and the keys are to be removed from the ignition.

NOTE: Operators of vehicle/equipment and supervisors will be judicious in the idling of units at emergency scenes and job sites. If not all the units at the scene/site need to be idling, those units must be turned off and the keys removed from the ignition.

Each vehicle/equipment operator will be responsible for the idling operation of their unit and will have the unit keys in their possession to ensure that crewmembers do not arbitrarily violate the policy without the operator's knowledge.

Supervisors in each department/division will be responsible for the adherence and enforcement of the idling policy. Violations of the policy will be documented as to the vehicle/equipment operator, vehicle number, location, date and time, weather conditions, and circumstances of the violation. The vehicle/equipment operator will be informed of the violation by the supervisor at the time of the infraction. Each department/division will be responsible for the discipline of their employees found to be violating this policy.

Anti-Idling Policy

The Anti-Idling Policy seeks to reduce the affects of exhaust emissions and to save on fuel. Policy requirements are as follows:

- Motor vehicles or motorized equipment shall not be permitted to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition and removing the key.
- Start up or cool down periods of turbo-charged diesel engines shall not exceed 3 minutes warm up and 5 minutes cool down.
- Vehicles shall not be permitted to idle more than 5 minutes while attended.
- Motorized vehicles or motorized equipment shall not be permitted to idle within 100 ft. of a building's fresh air intake.


Exceptions to the Anti-Idling Policy are as follows:

- Operations requiring power take off or work functions involving vehicle powered auxiliary equipment
- Traffic conditions
- Mechanical difficulties
- Ensuring the safety or health of operators or passengers
- Service or repair
- Emergency response vehicles when responding to an emergency and idling is necessary given the nature of the emergency
- Fire vehicles which must maintain onboard medication at a specific temperature
- Vehicles whose batteries may be discharged because of onboard electrical equipment (i.e. emergency lights, radar, computers, etc.)

NON-COMPLIANCE:

There will be a thirty-day educational period (defined as thirty days from the City Manager's signature) prior to enforcement of this new policy; thereafter employees will be subject to disciplinary action for non-compliance in accordance with the City's Progressive Discipline Policy.

Effective Date of Policy: 6-1-08


Director of Human Resources
And Risk/Safety

6-1-08
Date


City Manager

6/4/08
Date