

Fact Sheet

When cars and buses idle, their emissions increase dramatically, and these emissions include chemicals that have a negative affect on human health and the environment. **If you need to wait for more than 10 seconds**, turn off your vehicle to help reduce exhaust fumes emitted in the environment and around your school.

It's
**Not Cool
to Idle
at School!**

First, let's dispel the myths:

Many people idle their vehicles because they think it is better for their cars or uses less fuel. But think again! Here are a few simple facts to set drivers straight.

1

Restarting your engine uses more fuel than idling.

False!

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting your engine.

2

Idling helps to warm up my car, especially in colder weather.

False!

Idling a vehicle is not an effective way to warm it up. The best way to warm up a car is to drive it.

3

Frequent restarting is hard on my car engine and battery.

False!

Frequent restarting has little impact on engine components like the battery and starter motor.

4

Idling won't hurt the vehicle – if anything it helps it run better.

False!

Excessive idling is hard on engines and can damage cylinders, spark plugs, and exhaust systems.

Get more facts on the back! 

Did you know?

A single car dropping off and picking up kids at school can put **three pounds of pollution** into the air each month. If parents band together and pledge not to idle at school, they can significantly reduce air pollution in our environment and around our schools. Remember...**It's not cool to idle at school!**

