

# Idling Facts

“For every two minutes a car is idling, it uses about the same amount of fuel it takes to go about 1 mile.”

-[California Energy Commission](#)

“Restarting uses about the same amount of gasoline as idling for 6 seconds with the A/C on.”

-[American Society of Mechanical Engineers Florida Section](#)

“A typical truck burns approximately 1 gallon of diesel fuel for each hour it idles.” & “Running an engine at low speed (idling) causes twice the wear on internal parts compared to driving at regular speeds. According to the American Trucking association, such wear can increase maintenance costs by almost \$2,000 per year and shorten the life of the engine.”

-[A USEPA brochure on idling targeted at diesel trucks \(PDF\)](#)

“Component wear caused by restarting the engine is estimated to add [only] \$10 per year to the cost of driving [compared to fuel costs].”

-[California Energy Commission](#)

“In fact, studies show that people who live near heavily trafficked roadways face significantly elevated risks of asthma attacks and heart disease, stunted childhood lung development, adverse birth outcomes, lower IQ scores, cancer and other diseases contributing to premature death.”

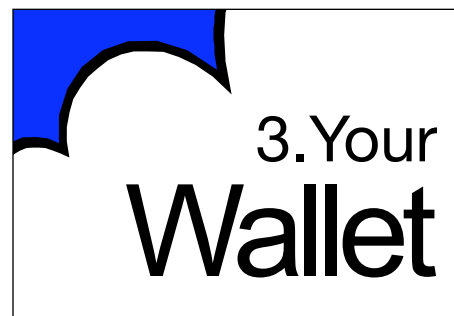
-American Lung Association & [Environmental Defense Fund \(PDF\)](#)

“Women exposed to air pollution from freeways and congested roads are much more likely to give birth to premature babies and suffer from preeclampsia, according to a study by University of California Scientists published Wednesday.”

-[Scientific American June 25, 2009](#)

“Idling is not an effective way of warming up your engine, as your vehicle is made up of many moving parts. An idling engine is not operating at peak temperature, resulting in incomplete fuel combustion. Fuel residues can condense on cylinder walls, contaminate oil and damage engine components.”

-[LEaP \(Lowering Emissions and Particulates\)](#)



For more information contact:

Earth Day Coalition (216) 281-6468

[www.cleanairzone.org](http://www.cleanairzone.org)