

It's time: Vermont is the only state in New England that does not prohibit unnecessary diesel idling.

Restricting idling of trucks weighing 10,000 pounds or more would reduce greenhouse gas and health-damaging emissions from idling.

A win for business, the environment and public health:

Eliminating unnecessary idling saves money.

- According to the American Trucking Association, wear from engine idling can increase maintenance costs *per truck* by \$2000 per year.
- Green Mountain Coffee Roasters avoids consuming 7,000 gallons of fuel and saves \$20,000 *per year* by avoiding unnecessary idling.
- United Parcel Service saves \$12 million *per year* with its no idling policy.

Eliminating unnecessary idling improves the environment.

- Diesel exhaust contributes to global warming.
- Vehicle exhaust is the largest contributor to Vermont's air pollution.
- Vermont's air quality often reaches unhealthy levels for particulate matter and nitrogen oxides.

Eliminating unnecessary idling improves public health.

- Drivers of diesel vehicles have an increased incidence of disease and death due to lung cancer.
- Particulate matter from diesel exhaust increases hospital admissions due to asthma, pneumonia and heart disease.
- Vermont will spend an estimated \$78 million in health care costs and lost productivity from problems related to diesel exhaust this year.

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Myths and Realities: the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), diesel engine manufacturers, and other diesel technical experts all agree there are myths associated with diesel idling.

- **Myth:** Warm-up time for a heavy-duty diesel engine should be 10 minutes or more. **Reality:** Most engine manufacturers recommend that engines run for no more than three to five minutes before driving.
- **Myth:** Shutting off and restarting a heavy-duty diesel engine will increase wear. **Reality:** In normal on-road driving, there is no additional wear when shutting the truck on/off several times a day. Letting an engine idle can actually do more damage to the engine than starting and stopping.
- **Myth:** To avoid fuel gelling, heavy-duty diesel engines should not be shut off in cold weather. **Reality:** Gelling of diesel is no longer the problem it was years ago. Refiners have resolved the issue of gelling by creating winter blends that better withstand colder temperatures.
- **Myth:** Drivers in their cabs are protected from exhaust emissions while idling. **Reality:** Idling poses health risks to drivers. While sitting in an idling vehicle, drivers are exposed to the vehicle's pollution more so than when the vehicle is in motion since there is no air flow to vent the emissions.