



City of Summerside

Anti Idling Policy

P-CS-18

Approved September 17th, 2012

Policy

BACKGROUND

Why reduce idling? City of Summerside staff take pride in the efficient performance of their duties. Idling vehicles may detract from this perception.

Idling pollutes our air

Idling results in the needless emission of pollutants into our air. A vehicle's catalytic converter will only function properly if the exhaust temperature is hot. Idling is not an effective way to warm up a vehicle's engine, even in cold weather. The quickest way to increase a vehicle's exhaust temperature is to drive it.

Idling contributes to climate change The consumption of fuel results in the emission of carbon dioxide (CO₂), which is a greenhouse gas and contributes to climate change. The vehicle fleet of the The City of Summerside ("The City") is a source of greenhouse gas emissions in our community. Reducing idling is an easy way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and The City's impact on the environment.

Idling wastes fuel and money

Ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than turning off the engine and re-starting it. An idling pick-up truck consumes about 2.2 litres of fuel per hour.

Idling prematurely damages engines

An idling engine is not operating at peak temperature, which means fuel residues can condense on cylinder walls, where they can contaminate oil and foul spark plugs. In diesel engines, excessive idling produces sulphuric acid that breaks down the oil and eats into bearings, rings, valve stems and engine surfaces.



PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to reduce idling, minimize fleet operating costs, and reduce harmful effects on the environment.

DEFINITIONS

1. Idling – The operation of the engine of a vehicle while the vehicle is not in motion and not being used to operate auxiliary equipment essential to the basic operation of the vehicle.

POLICY

1.0. Scope/Exceptions

1.1. Scope

This policy applies to all City business units and staff operating vehicles on behalf of The City and is in addition to adherence to all provincial laws including, but not limited to speed limits, cell phone prohibition, use of seat belts, and smoking bylaws.

2.0. General Policies

2.1. City fleet vehicles will not be parked with the engine operating for more than five (5) minutes unless it is essential for performance of work.

- (a) Exceptions are during an initial engine warm-up period in weather below -10° Celsius and during periods of extreme cold weather below -10° Celsius.
- (b) When engines must be left operating, for any reason, the operator will remain with the unit.

2.2. It is the responsibility of every City employee to minimize fleet operating costs while reducing harmful effects on the environment.