

NO IDLING GUIDELINE

Engine emissions are increasingly connected to a wide variety of health complaints and contribute to global warming. Turning off a vehicle is a simple and cost-effective way to reduce noise, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, protect health, and extend engine life.

- Idling a vehicle 10 minutes a day uses more than 25 gallons of gasoline a year. Cars do not need to be warmed up except in below-zero conditions.
- An idling engine produces twice as many exhaust emissions as an engine in motion.
- Idling engines contribute unnecessarily to global warming through emissions of greenhouse gases.
- An idling engine is not operating at its peak temperature, which means fuel combustion is incomplete. Soot deposits can accumulate on cylinder walls leading to oil contamination and damaged components. Idling, while warming an engine, does not warm the wheel bearings, steering, transmission and tires--only driving does this.
- Idling a diesel-powered engine for over 30 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine.
- Idling a gasoline-powered engine for over 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting the engine.

For these reasons, Colorado State University Facilities Management and Housing & Dining Services has adopted the following no idling guideline. This guideline is directed to Colorado State University employees but compliance is encouraged from students and all campus visitors including external contractors, vendors, and others who deliver supplies or convey passengers to and from campus facilities.

Facilities Management and Housing & Dining Services Employees using Colorado State University gasoline or diesel powered passenger vehicles and light trucks should:

- Turn vehicles off if idling more than a minute.
- Allow larger diesel vehicles operating under heavy load to idle for a few minutes to cool down and/or if engine must run to operate a lift gate for loading or unloading.
- Remain present with idling vehicle for defrosting windows for visibility and safety only.
- Manually scrape ice and snow off and the vehicle should not have defrosters run as the only means of ice removal.

This guideline **does not apply** if doing so creates a safety issue, disrupts work, or in extremely cold conditions (less than 20 F).

The success of this guideline depends upon the thoughtfulness, respect and cooperation of all drivers. All staff share the responsibility of following and encouraging compliance with the guideline. Further, all vehicles/equipment are never to be left unattended while idling. It is the responsibility of the operator of the vehicle/equipment to turn the unit off and remove keys from the ignition.

Approval for Facilities Management Work Rules and Guidelines:



Tom Satterly, Associate VP Facilities Management

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Date