



successstories

Success Story #2

Mobile Source Pollution Reduction

School Bus Idling





Idling diesel trucks and buses create toxic air pollution, contribute to global warming, and waste costly

fuel- and in some cases, the operator may be breaking the law. In July 2007, Rhode Island adopted legislation to protect the health and safety of children from harmful diesel bus emissions. This law calls for schools to reduce the unnecessary idling in front of schools, and reroute bus parking zones away from air-intake vents.

What started the momentum on Anti-Idling began in 2004, when DEM, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Health, launched a new program to protect school children and bus drivers from breathing excessive amounts of diesel exhaust emissions. The three agencies invited all Rhode Island school superintendents to join the program. *Breathe Better Rhode Island*, by pledging to limit school bus idling time and to take other steps to reduce diesel exhaust emissions. Eighteen of the state's 36 school districts participated.

Resources were provided to help schools protect students, drivers, and the school communities from diesel emissions.

Adoption:

- ★ 2007 [Air Pollution Control Regulation #45](#).
- ★ Anti-Idling on all diesel motor vehicles, including heavy-duty diesel vehicles used to perform any state public works contracts.
- ★ No idling for longer than five consecutive minutes during any 60-minute period.

For More Information:

Contact Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Office of Air Resources.

Resources:

Air Pollution Control [Regulation #45](#) – Rhode Island Diesel Engine Anti-Idling Program