

The **AFSZ** is a project of  
Real World Foundation

# Asthma Free School Zone Newsletter

Asthma Prevention, Environmental Protection & Community Empowerment in a Neighborhood Setting

## AFSZ Appearances Here & There

*Presentation—District 27, QN  
Community Education Council  
May 18, 2009 ~ 7:30–9 PM*

*West Side Clean Air Coalition  
W. 53 St. / 9th-10th Ave., MN  
May 11, 2009 – 3 PM*

*I-FNYC Press Conference  
Red Room, City Hall, MN  
May 5, 2009 – 10 AM*

*Earth Day @ Hall of Science  
47-01 111th Street, QN  
Apr. 25-26, 2009 ~ 10 –5 PM*

*Earth Day @ Grand Central  
Apr. 24-25, 2009 ~ 12-5 PM*

*Earth Day @ Bronx Zoo  
Apr. 24, 2009 ~ 11-5 PM*

*Community Board 3, MN  
Air Quality Presentation  
Oct. 29, 2008 ~ 8 PM*

*Earth Day @ NYU  
Washington Square, MN  
Apr. 22, 2009 ~ 10–2 PM*

*Community Board 11, MN  
Air Quality Presentation  
Mar. 5, 2009 ~ 6–8 PM*

## New Yorkers Rally for an Idle-Free City

The Red Room at City Hall was packed on May 5, 2009, when individuals and organizations gathered to recognize *Idle-Free NYC* (I-FNYC) and World Asthma Day. The rally was the culmination of AFSZ's citywide campaign to reduce engine idling and improve air quality in our neighborhoods. The testimony of elected officials, school students, and a wide range of organizations and businesses proved how dedicated individuals can make an impact on environment and health.

Councilmembers John Liu, Letitia James and Inez Dickins spoke of the importance of the new one-minute school zone idling law. NYS Senator Daniel Squadron (District 25) announced his bill to reduce heavy-duty engine idling to one-minute statewide. AFSZ is thrilled to support this groundbreaking legislation and looks forward to the day that when all engine idling in NYS will be limited to one-minute.

### AFSZ Is A Contest Winner!

The Adobe Systems/TechSoup *Show Your Impact* contest recognized AFSZ as one of 12 nonprofit organizations to make a significant environmental impact in 2009. <http://www.showyourimpact.org/adobe>

## West Side Stop-Idling Coalition Rally

Residents of Clinton/Hell's Kitchen were so sick and tired of idling black cars, tour buses, and ambulettes that they decided to take action. On May 11, 2009, local citizens rallied at Manhattan's PS 111 to launch local enforcement of NYC's new 1-minute school zone idling law. Parents, students, school staff, elected officials, coalition and community members spoke out for cleaner air. Participants walked the streets, giving out information, speaking with drivers, and asking them to sign a pledge and commit to a no-idling policy.

The event was sponsored by PS 111 and the West Side Clean Air Campaign, a collaboration between the Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Pedestrian Safety Coalition (CHEKPEDS), West Side Neighborhood Alliance, and Housing Conservation Coordinators. AFSZ is proud to continue to work with the West Side Clean Air Campaign and to support its initiatives.



## AFSZ Program Kit Educational Media

AFSZ is creating educational media as part of the Program Kit that will enable cost-effective program expansion. Videos will inform students, parents and school staff about asthma, idling, and environment. *Arts Effect*, a local pre-teen theater troupe, will be seen performing the AFSZ play, *Help Wanted*, as well as several short asthma-related skits.

The videos, which are now in the editing stage, were conceived and produced by AFSZ staff. Each of the seven videos will be asupported by discussion and activity guides tailored for the different audiences of a school community.

## Bronx District 14 School Signage

AFSZ is excited to announce that there is a Bronx City Council District where core program no-idling signs are to be posted at every elementary school. Bronx Councilmember Maria Baez has arranged for the English and Spanish signs to be given to all 16 District 14 elementary schools. The signs, which are supported by stop-idling print materials, aim to reduce asthma-related illness and absenteeism by reducing unnecessary exposure to fumes.