

**Idling** harms health,  
hurts air quality,  
wastes fuel, and  
is against the law.

# Idle-Free Schools

[www.idle-free.info](http://www.idle-free.info)



Dear School Staff and Administrators,

Asthma Free School Zone (AFSZ) is happy to work with your school to make the school environment safer and healthier for children with asthma. This Stop-Idling Kit can help you to reduce vehicle pollution in your school zone.

Vehicle idling outside of our schools and in our communities is dangerous for children's health, harmful to the environment, a waste of gas, and against the law. You may have heard about the new law that will help to ensure cleaner air outside your school - the new 1-minute idling law in school zones.

We invite you to join the movement to reduce air pollution from vehicles on the streets of NYC, particularly around your school. You can inform the parents, staff, and community at your school about the effects of idling and encourage them to make behavioral changes. Plan a Stop-Idling Day using materials included in this packet or downloaded from the [www.idle-free.info](http://www.idle-free.info) website. Recruit parents, staff, crossing guards, bus drivers, and community members to hand out *Thank you for not idling* cards during student arrival and/or dismissal. Please tell us if you will hold a Stop-Idling Day, and we may be able to help further.

Thank you for the work your school is doing to make positive changes in the health and environment of school children. AFSZ is proud of your efforts and is willing to assist you in any way we can.

Sincerely,

Cecilia Galarraga  
Program Associate  
Asthma Free School Zone

Material	How to use it
<b>'What to say to drivers' sheet</b>	Give to parents & staff in the fall
<b>Letter</b>	Deliver to parents & staff in the fall
<b>Pledge cards</b>	Give to parents & staff in the fall
<b>PA announcements</b>	Use for morning announcements
<b>1-minute law flyer</b>	Post under windshields
<b>Driver hand-outs</b>	Print front to back, cut out and hand to drivers
<b>Stop Idling Day posters</b>	Post at school to notify school community members

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## Things you can say to drivers who are idling

**“Excuse me, but did you know...**

... there is a new law? All drivers must turn off their engines next to a school. If you idle for more than 1 minute, you can get a ticket.”

... this school is working really hard to keep all our students healthy?”

... children are hurt the most by polluted air because they breathe faster than adults?”

...chemicals in vehicle exhaust pollute the air?”

... several children at this school have asthma that is made worse by idling fumes?”

### **It's the Law!**

**No car, truck or bus** can idle in the school zone for **more than one minute**.

**No car, truck or bus** can idle anywhere in NYC for **more than three**



**Look for these signs at your child's school to remind everyone of the idling laws.**

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## Usted puede pedir

*“¿Perdón, pero sabe que...*

... hay una nueva ley? No se puede dejar el motor prendido por más que un minuto en la zona escolar.”

... esta escuela está trabajando para mantener la salud de todos los estudiantes?”

... los niños son más afectados por la contaminación porque respiran más rápidamente que los adultos?”

... los químicos en los humos de los vehículos contaminan el aire?”

... muchos de los niños en esta escuela sufren de asma y los humos de los vehículos pueden provocar un ataque de asma?”

### **¡Es la Ley!**

**Ningún auto, coche, o autobús** no puede dejar el motor prendido en la zona escolar por **más que un minuto.**

**Ningún auto, coche, o autobús** puede dejar el motor prendido por **más que tres minutos.**



**Busque estos letreros cerca de la escuela para recordarles a todos de las leyes sobre dejando el motor prendido.**

# Asthma Free School Zone

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cg@afsz.org  
212-533-6617

[www.afsz.org](http://www.afsz.org)  
New York, NY

Dear Members of the School Community,

Have you heard? Your child's school is committed to creating a **no-idling policy**. Idling means running the engine of a vehicle without driving anywhere. Idling vehicles create unnecessary pollution that comes from the tailpipe. Since your child's school is working with *Asthma Free School Zone* to create a safe and clean learning environment, we are concerned about idling vehicles outside the school.

## How can you help?

- If you drive, turn your car engine off when you are not moving.
- If you ride in a car, remind the driver not to idle.
- If you see a bus or car idling near your child's school, ask the driver to turn the engine off.
- Tell drivers that:
  - o Idling fumes are dangerous for children, especially those with asthma.
  - o My child's school is an *Asthma Free School Zone*.
  - o Idling is against the law.
  - o Idling pollutes the air we breathe.

Over 300,000 children suffer from asthma that is made worse by polluted air. Help us to clean up the environment at your child's school so children with asthma and all other children will breathe cleaner air.

Sincerely,



Cecilia Galarraga  
Program Associate  
Asthma Free School Zone

**Look for these signs at your child's school.**



## Asthma Free School Zone

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212-533-6617

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New York, NY

Querido Miembro de la Comunidad Escolar,

¿Ha oído usted? Esta escuela intenta crear **una política de no-idling**. “Idle” significa cuando un vehículo está parado pero el motor sigue prendido. Los vehículos que dejan sus motores prendidos producen mucha polución que contamina el aire. Su escuela está trabajando con la *Zona Escolar Libre de Asma* para crear un lugar sano para sus hijos. Fijamos en el ambiente creado por los vehículos que andan alrededor de su escuela.

### Como nos puede ayudar:

- Si conduce un auto, apague su motor cuando su auto esté parado.
- Si usted es un pasajero, le recuerde al conductor que no debe dejar el motor prendido cuando parqueado.
- Pida a los conductores que no dejen el motor prendido innecesariamente.
- Informe conductores que:
  - o Los humos de los autos dañan la salud de los niños, especialmente los niños con asma.
  - o Esta escuela es una *Zona Escolar Libre de Asma*.
  - o Es contra la ley dejar el motor prendido.
  - o Los humos de los autos contamina el aire.

Más que 300,000 niños sufren de asma que empeora con la polución. Ayúdenos mejorar el medioambiente en la escuela de su niño para que todos los niños respiren mejor.

Atentamente,

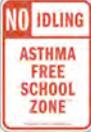


Cecilia Galarraga  
Program Associate  
Asthma Free School Zone

**Busque estas señales en la escuela de su niño.**



**Asthma Free School Zone**  
No Idling Pledge Card



I pledge to not idle my engine near this school.

I understand that idling causes air pollution, which is bad for health and environment, and is against NYC law.

By signing here, I promise to do my part to help keep kids – especially kids with asthma – in school. I will turn off my engine when stopped or waiting by the school. I will encourage other drivers to do the same.

\_\_\_\_\_

name date

**Asthma Free School Zone**  
Tarjeta de Promesa de "No Idling"



Prometo para no "idle" mi motor cerca de esta escuela.

Entiendo que "idling" causa la contaminación del aire, que es mala para la salud y el ambiente, y es contra la ley de la Ciudad de Nueva York.

Firmando aquí, prometo ayudar a mantener la salud de los niños, especialmente los niños con asma, en la escuela. Apagaré mi motor cuando esté parado o esperado cerca de la escuela. Animaré a otros conductores a hacer el mismo.

\_\_\_\_\_

name date

# Asthma Free School Zone

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## Sample PA Announcements

You can make announcements at any time of the year to inform others about how to clean up the air outside the school. Join in by making regular PA announcements about the significance of these events and ways everyone can get involved. Below are some suggestions. For a year-round schedule of *Announcements from the Main Office*, see pp. 81-82.

### Sample Announcement #1

You have probably seen the signs posted outside our school that say: **No Idling: Asthma Free School Zone**. And you probably know by now that idling means that a car, truck or bus has its engine running without going anywhere. Idling is bad for our health, pollutes the air, and is against the law! We will do our part by making our school healthier. So, start talking with people about what idling means and tell them that our school will be idle-free!

### Sample Announcement #2

We can all do something to make the air cleaner in our neighborhood. Remember, idling means running the engine when the car is not moving. Ask anyone who drives you to school – your family or the bus driver – to turn off their engines while they wait outside. Tell them that idling hurts your lungs, pollutes the air and is against the law!

### Sample Announcement #3

People all over the world are talking about how to take care of asthma and how to make it easier for both children and adults to breathe. New York City is doing that by asking people to turn off their car and bus engines when they are not driving. This will reduce the pollution in our air. We are going to do this, too, by making sure our school is idle-free. We're working very hard to keep us all healthy.

### Sample Announcement #4

As you may already know, we are an **Asthma Free School Zone**. Asthma is made worse by bad air quality. Our school is working hard to stop all idling near our school. Remember, that means cars, trucks, and buses must not run their engines while they are standing still or waiting outside the school. Staff, please remember not to idle, and children, remind your parents and bus driver not to idle. Let's make sure we're not breathing in those toxic fumes.

# No Idling near this school!

**1-minute limit in school zones\*  
(3-minute idling limit city-wide)**

**\* NYC Admin Code 24-163**

## Engine Idling

harms children's health,  
hurts air quality, wastes fuel,  
and is **against the law.**



**Idle-Free NYC**  
[www.idle-free.info](http://www.idle-free.info)

# ¡No Idling cerca de esta escuela!

**límite de 1-minuto en la zona escolar \*  
(límite de 3-minutos en toda la ciudad)**

**\* NYC Admin Code 24-163**

## Dejar el motor prendido

daña la salud, empeora el aire,  
despilfarra el gas,  
y es **contra la ley.**



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**Idling = running**  
the engine when parked



**Thank you  
for not idling.**

**Idling harms health,  
hurts air quality, and  
is against NYC law.**

[www.afsz.org](http://www.afsz.org)

**Idling = running**  
the engine when parked



**Thank you  
for not idling.**

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**Idling = running**  
the engine when parked



**Thank you  
for not idling.**

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**Idling = running**  
the engine when parked



**Thank you  
for not idling.**

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**Idling = running**  
the engine when parked



**Thank you  
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**Idling = running**  
the engine when parked



**Thank you  
for not idling.**

**Idling harms health,  
hurts air quality, and  
is against NYC law.**

[www.afsz.org](http://www.afsz.org)

**Idling =**

dejar el motor prendido



**Gracias por  
no idling.**

Idling daña la salud,  
empeora la calidad  
del aire, y es contra  
la ley de NYC.

[www.afsz.org](http://www.afsz.org)

**Idling =**

dejar el motor prendido



**Gracias por  
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**Idling =**

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**Idling =**

dejar el motor prendido



**Gracias por  
no idling.**

Idling daña la salud,  
empeora la calidad  
del aire, y es contra  
la ley de NYC.

[www.afsz.org](http://www.afsz.org)

**Idling**=leaving the engine running when parked

# Stop-Idling Day

at:

Put day and date here

**Idling** harms health,  
hurts air quality,  
wastes fuel, and  
is against the law.

**Come - help make  
our school zone  
safe and healthy!**



[www.idle-free.info](http://www.idle-free.info)



**Idling** = dejar el motor prendido

# Stop-Idling Day

at:

[Empty box for date and time]

Put day and date here

“**Idling**” daña la salud,  
daña el medio ambiente,  
gasta combustible y  
es contra la ley.

*Venga - ¡ayúdenos  
crear una zona  
escolar segura y sana!*



[www.idle-free.info](http://www.idle-free.info)

