

MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
ANTIGONISH

TOPIC:	Anti-Idling Standard Operating Policy
POLICY NUMBER:	31
DATE APPROVED:	June 17, 2008 (#08-91)
DATE REVISED:	

1.0 TITLE:

This policy may be cited as the “Anti-Idling Standard Operating Policy” of the Municipality of the County of Antigonish.

2.0 DEFINITIONS:

2.1 **Idle** means the operation of a vehicle engine while the vehicle is not in motion; **Idling** has the same meaning.

2.2 **Vehicle** or **Motor Vehicle** means any vehicle that is capable of being driven or drawn on or off roads by any means other than muscular power exclusively.

2.3 **Vehicle with power take-off** means a vehicle containing work equipment that must be powered by the vehicle engine.

3.0 APPLICATION AND ADMINISTRATION:

This policy shall apply to all vehicles owned by the Municipality of the County of Antigonish and operated by Municipality of the County of Antigonish employees. It shall be administered by the Director of Public Works and the Solid Waste Management Facility / Road Maintenance Supervisor.

4.0 ANTI-IDLING REQUIREMENTS:

4.1 Manufacturer’s Guidelines

- i. Always follow vehicle manufacturer’s guidelines for idling unless otherwise advised by fleet services.

4.2 Operation of vehicle in the field

- i. **Gasoline fueled vehicles** – no operator shall unnecessarily idle the engine of an unleaded fuelled car or truck that is stopped for a foreseeable period of time in excess of 10 seconds
- ii. **Diesel fueled vehicle** – no operator shall idle the engine of a diesel-fuelled vehicle that is stopped for a foreseeable period of time in excess

of 3 minutes; however, diesel fuelled vehicles should only be turned off after enough time has passed to allow proper circulation and cooling of engine oil (and/or other engine fluids), not to exceed 5 minutes.

4.3 Initial Warm-up

- i. **Gasoline Fuelled Vehicle** – Idle times up to 3 minutes are allowed for unleaded fuelled cars or trucks during their initial shift warm-ups and at subsequent times when the vehicle is being restarted after a prolonged period of shut-down that result in vehicle conditions similar to those prior to initial warm-up.
- ii. **Diesel Fuelled Vehicle** – During their initial shift warm-up, and at subsequent times when the truck is being restarted after a prolonged period of shut-down, vehicles should idle for a minimum time required to warm up the hydraulic system, as indicated by the hydraulic system indicator light. Warm-up idle times up to 5 minutes are allowed for diesel fuelled vehicles.

5.0 Exceptions

5.1 This standard operating policy does not apply to the following vehicle or vehicles operating during the following circumstances:

- i. Fire Services vehicles during emergency operations;
- ii. Vehicles for which idling is required to service the engine or conduct repairs;
- iii. Vehicles idling for the purpose of operating power take-off or electrical equipment;
- iv. Garbage, recycling, or compost vehicles during materials collection;
- v. Staff may idle a vehicle for up to 15 minutes for the purpose of getting warm and/or dry if indoor conditions are not available in the work area;
- vi. Vehicles may idle for the purpose of defogging, defrosting, or de-icing windows after attempts to remove ice or frost have taken place with a scraper. Idling must end once frost, fog or ice conditions have been eliminated;
- vii. Where safety may be compromised by shutting down the engine, vehicle may idle at the discretion of the operator.