

TOWN OF PROSPER

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 19: Clean Fleet and Vehicle Idle Reduction Program

SECTION 19.01: CLEAN FLEET POLICY

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set goals and provide workable, cost-effective solutions to improve air quality and reduce petroleum consumption in the Town of Prosper and the overall Dallas-Fort Worth area, and implement the measures outlined in this policy as practicable.

B. EMISSION REDUCTION ACTIONS

The Town of Prosper will reduce emissions from fleet activities by performing the following actions as practicable:

1. Implement an idle-reduction policy that applies to all of the entity's vehicles and equipment, except where exempted as determined by the Town of Prosper; communicate idle-reduction expectations to staff and utilize idle-reduction technology.
2. Maximize use of vehicles and equipment with the lowest emissions wherever possible.
3. Ensure all conversions are EPA and/or California Air Resources Board (CARB) certified; ensure that aftermarket technologies are EPA and/or CARB verified, or are listed as an emerging technology by the EPA or a state environmental agency; and both conversions and aftermarket technologies are compatible with Texas Low Emission Diesel Program (TxLED) requirements.
4. Make efforts as possible to modify non-essential fleet activities on high ozone days to reduce air quality impacts.
5. Use vehicle and equipment disposal strategies with the goal of minimizing negative impacts on air quality.
6. Use vehicle and equipment emissions inspection practices which meet or surpass the standards required by statute, including prompt resolution of any illuminated malfunction indicator lamp (MIL).

C. FUEL CONSUMPTION REDUCTION EFFORTS

The Town of Prosper will strive to reduce overall fuel consumption (adjusting for fleet growth), particularly the use of conventional petroleum fuels, by performing the following actions as practicable:

1. Pursue low-emission vehicles and equipment for acquisition, with an emphasis on alternative fuel, advanced technology, and/or SmartwaySM certified vehicles and equipment.
2. Improve overall fleet fuel efficiency.
3. Establish practices to reduce vehicle miles traveled, passenger miles traveled, engine hours, and/or ton miles traveled, as proper.

D. PARTNERSHIP AND REPORTING

The Town of Prosper will partner with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) and Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC) by performing the following actions as practicable:

1. Maintain membership and active participation in DFWCC and submit timely Clean Fleet Policy reporting for clean fleet funded vehicles and equipment.
2. Evaluate and consider participation in programs to test/commercialize/demonstrate new technologies to improve efficiency, reduce emissions, and/or increase fuel efficiency.
3. Pursue activities which support peer fleets' efforts to implement fuel or emissions-reducing activities by sharing and maximizing resources.
4. Encourage fleet activities which minimize water, solid waste, or other environmental impacts of fleet activities, as appropriate.

E. TRAINING

The Town of Prosper will strive to ensure that drivers/operators and fleet personnel are familiar with air quality and petroleum reduction goals by performing the following actions as practicable:

1. Provide training and/or attending training administered by NCTCOG for fleet personnel and other staff involved in fleet decisions to review policy elements and provide recommendations for achieving objectives.
2. Consider other mechanisms to increase understanding and awareness among fleet personnel and others.

SECTION 19.02: VEHICLE IDLE REDUCTION

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish and define guidelines for the reduction of unnecessary vehicle and equipment engine idling. This policy is expected to reduce operating costs, fuel consumption and engine wear due to unnecessary engine idling of vehicles and equipment. The Town of Prosper is committed to improving the health and quality of life of its citizens and the reduction of pollution generated by town vehicles is a primary component of that commitment.

B. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all Town of Prosper employees using town vehicles or motorized equipment to perform assigned duties.

C. RESTRICTIONS

The restrictions on idling are as follows:

1. No engine idling (other than reasonable engine warm up) is permitted. (Note: Modern engines only need 30 seconds to warm up in the winter before being ready to drive.)
2. When a driver exits the vehicle, the engine will be turned off.
3. Vehicles or equipment will not be left unattended while the engine is running.

4. Vehicles will not be left running to maintain cabin temperature (air conditioning or heating).
5. Vehicles waiting to be loaded or unloaded will have the engine turned off if the idling time will exceed five minutes.

D. EXEMPTIONS

The vehicles and operating conditions noted below are exempt from the idling restrictions listed above:

1. Idling vehicle due to traffic congestion.
2. Idling vehicle or equipment for maintenance/diagnostic purposes.
3. Vehicles operated solely to defrost a windshield.
4. Vehicle idling during power take offs, which require engine operation.
5. Passenger vehicles requiring heat or air conditioning necessary for passenger comfort and safety (e.g., school buses and emergency vehicles).
6. Clearly marked police, fire, or emergency vehicle that are required to idle in order to operate auxiliary equipment considered necessary for work crew and/or public safety. Auxiliary equipment may include light bars, strobe/or directional lighting or on-board refrigeration units.
7. Vehicles or equipment that have an extended manufacturer's recommended warm-up and cooldown time.
8. When the health or safety of employee's or others may be jeopardized.
9. In situations where driver safety may be compromised.
10. In extreme weather situations, where idling prior to departure is necessary for vehicle or motorized equipment operation.
11. Vehicles or motorized equipment that are required to idle in order to power hydraulic equipment, compressors, pumps, auxiliary equipment or lights, while engaged in work activities that require such safety equipment to be operational.