

Engine Idling Reduction Guidelines for City Of Nashua Drivers (as recommended by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services)

Purpose:

The Engine Idling Reduction Guidelines are intended to protect the health of drivers, the public, and the environment from excessive exposure to exhaust emissions, while reducing wear on vehicle engines, decreasing fuel consumption, and minimizing operational costs. The guidelines are also intended to ensure compliance with New Hampshire State regulations establishing limits on idling time.

Guidelines:

All persons operating vehicles in the course of doing business for or with the City of Nashua should adhere to the following guidelines:

- All drivers should turn off engines when they reach their destination and when they expect to be parked for more than 10 seconds (~~use common sense!~~) – this probably wouldn't make it into a policy, but should be in the presentation.
- During morning start-up, vehicles should idle no longer than necessary to bring them to proper operating temperature (generally 1 to 3 minutes in winter). Follow manufacturer's guidelines for proper warm-up and cool-down procedures.
- When idling is necessary, all drivers should limit idling time according to state regulations (Env-A 1100) as follows:

<i>Outside Temperature (Fahrenheit)</i>	<i>Idling Time limit</i>
Above 32°	5 minutes
Between -10° and 32°	15 minutes
Below -10°	no limit

Exemptions apply when any one of the following conditions exists:

- (a) When a vehicle is forced to remain motionless because of traffic conditions over which the operator has no control;
- (b) When a vehicle is being used as an emergency motor vehicle;
- (c) When an engine is providing power takeoff for refrigeration, lift gate pumps or other auxiliary uses, or supplying heat or air conditioning necessary for passenger comfort in those vehicles intended for commercial passenger transportation;
- (d) When a vehicle is being operated by a mechanic for maintenance or diagnostic purposes; or
- (e) When a vehicle is being operated solely to defrost a windshield.

For information on New Hampshire's regulations and idling reduction recommendations, contact Mike Fitzgerald at (603) 271-6390 or mfitzgerald@des.state.nh.us.