



Ozone Action Day Tips

Limit driving. Try sharing a ride to work or school. Walk or ride a bicycle. Don't drive to lunch.

Pick one day a week to leave your car at home. If only 1% of America's car owners did this, it would save millions of gallons of gasoline a year and keep many pollutants out of the atmosphere.

Combine trips whenever possible. Go from home, to the bank, to the store, and to the post office all in one trip. Stopping at home in between errands means more cold starts and more emissions.

Avoid long periods of unnecessary idling. While waiting at the drive-through window or waiting for a friend, turn your engine off—you will save fuel and keep the air cleaner. (Did you know that idling a car for more than 30 seconds produces more ozone forming emission than turning off and restarting the engine?)

Try to wait until late in the day to refuel your vehicle. The vapors that escape into the air bake in the heat and can add to ground-level ozone formation.

Don't top off your gas tank when refueling and avoid spilling gas when you are at the fuel pump.

Make sure gas caps on your vehicles, gas cans, and maintenance equipment are replaced when missing or when their threads are stripped.

When going on a trip, drive your newest car. Chances are it is equipped with better emission controls than your older model.

Keep your vehicle properly tuned. Follow the manufacturer's suggested maintenance schedule.

Keep your tires properly inflated. A well-tuned car with properly inflated, balanced, and rotated tires uses less gasoline and emits fewer pollutants than the alternative.

Park in the shade to avoid evaporative emissions from your sun-heated gas tank while parked.

Turn off lights and appliances when not in use. If we use less electricity at home, power plants burn less fossil fuel, and create less pollution in the air.

Avoid using gasoline-powered lawn equipment until late in the day. One hour of use produces as much ozone-creating emissions as 11 hours of driving a car.

Avoid using oil/solvent based paints, degreasers, or lighter fluids.

Opt for water-based cleaning and painting products whenever possible.

Apply paint with rollers and brushes instead of sprays; it cuts down on fumes.

Enjoy summer barbecues, but avoid using charcoal lighter fluid.

Consider natural gas, propane, or electric grills as alternatives next time you replace your backyard or patio barbecue.

Maintain your propane tanks according to specifications. Periodic check ups and maintenance ensure there are no leaks.

Consider manual or electric-powered lawn and garden maintenance equipment when replacing your gasoline-powered equipment.

Treat your personal watercraft and other leisure items just like your cars. Perform proper maintenance and avoid long periods of idling. You will reap the rewards of cost-efficiency and clean air.

Ozone Action Day!