



**WHILE YOU ARE...**

- ◆ Waiting for passengers
- ◆ Making a delivery
- ◆ Preparing to leave the house
- ◆ Stopping to talk to someone you know
- ◆ Running quick errands
- ◆ Listening to the radio

## **FACT: Idling gets us nowhere**

### **Idling is not an effective way to warm up a vehicle**

- ◆ Driving is the best way to warm up an engine
- ◆ Cars only need about 30 seconds of idling on a cold day before driving

### **Engines are designed to drive, not idle**

- ◆ Excessive idling can damage engine components, including cylinders, spark plugs, and the exhaust system
- ◆ Your engine is not working at peak operating temperature when it's idling, so fuel does not go through complete combustion
- ◆ Idling allows water to condense in the exhaust system and can reduce the life of the exhaust system
- ◆ Frequent restarting has little impact on engine components

### **Idling wastes fuel and money**

- ◆ More than 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the engine
- ◆ Idling five minutes periodically can add up to more than a gallon of fuel wasted per day

### **Idling impacts everyone**

- ◆ Idling contributes to local air pollution and global climate change
- ◆ Air pollution aggravates respiratory conditions such as asthma and can cause premature death

## **YOU CAN TAKE ACTION!**

TURN IT OFF. DRIVE. GET A TUNE UP.  
COMBINE TRIPS. SPREAD THE WORD.

*For more information, visit Greater Boston Breathes Better  
<http://www.epa.gov/region1/eco/gb3/>*