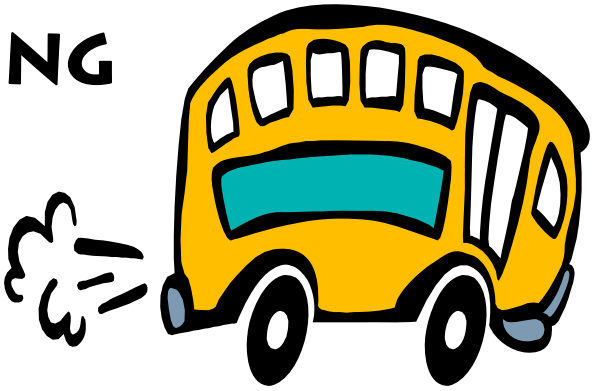
REDUCE SCHOOL BUS IDLING

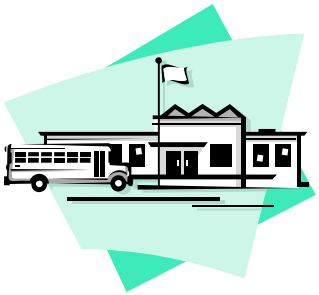
CLEAN THE AIR,
SAVE FUEL,
HELP A CHILD BREATHE EASIER!!



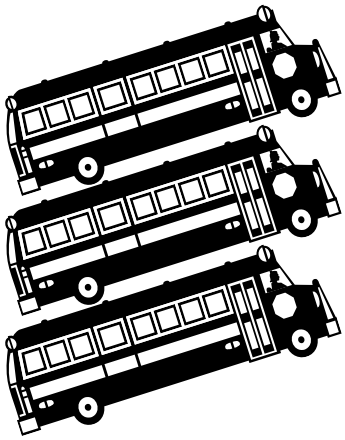
Diesel fumes from idling school buses exacerbates asthma, allergies, and chronic bronchitis and contributes to a compromised immune system and cancer. Children breathe 50% more air per pound of body weight than an adult, making their developing respiratory system especially vulnerable to air pollution. The average daily bus ride time for a student is one hour, during which time they may be exposed to 5-15 times the particulate pollution found along a roadside (Yale Study). Simple steps can be taken to minimize idling and children's exposure to dirty diesel emissions.

ANTI-IDLING STRATEGIES:

- BUSES SHOULD TURN OFF ENGINES WHILE WAITING FOR STUDENTS TO LOAD/UNLOAD
- REDUCE EARLY MORNING IDLING TIME TO LIMIT EXHAUST BUILD UP IN BUS
- DESIGNATE AN AREA IN THE SCHOOL FOR DRIVERS TO WAIT IF THEY ARRIVE EARLY



- POSITION THE BUSES AWAY FROM SCHOOL AIR INTAKE VENTS SO POLLUTION DOES NOT ACCUMULATE IN CLASSROOMS
- CHANGE BUS CIRCUIT CONFIGURATION TO RUN LIGHTS AND HEATING/COOLING OFF THE BATTERY



- LIMIT CARAVANNING—POSITION SCHOOL BUSES SO TAILPIPES DO NOT BLOW DIRECTLY TOWARDS ANOTHER BUS
- ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO SIT NEAR FRONT OF BUS WHEN NOT FULL

REDUCE IDLING TIME—THE $AVINGS ADD UP!!

IF...

A school bus fleet has 100 buses,
A school bus fleet reduces idling time by 30 minutes per bus per day,
A typical school bus uses a half gallon of diesel fuel per hour of idling,
Diesel fuel costs $1.00 per gallon,

THEN...

WHAT ARE THE ANNUAL SAVINGS?

Fuel cost = 100 buses x 0.5 hr/day x 0.5 gallons of fuel/hr x $1.00 per gallon x 180 days

SAVINGS = 4,500 gallons of saved fuel and $4,500!!

Based on formula estimates by U.S. EPA, Clean School Bus USA

O·H·I·O ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
KEEP WATCH, TAKE ACTION, MAKE CHANGE

For more information on diesel clean-up options, please visit www.theOEC.org or contact Air Program Staff at (614) 487-7506.