



# Media Advisory

Not for publication  
Sunday, September 21, 2008

## Environmental group to give money to cities to aid in air quality improvements

Ohio Environmental Council invests thousands of dollars into Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, and Parma Heights.

(CLEVELAND, OH) — The Ohio Environmental Council will be handing over a total of \$24,000 to the cities of Cleveland, Parma Heights, and Cleveland Heights to go to the purchase of emission controls on city-owned diesel vehicles.

Diesel emissions contain fine particles that are 1/70<sup>th</sup> the width of the human hair. When breathed, they lodge themselves into the lungs or blood stream and have been linked to asthma attacks, heart and lung disease and preventable death.

Emissions from diesels also contribute to Cuyahoga County failing federal air quality standards. If the County does not come into compliance it could face emission offsets and federal money being withheld.

There is a solution to diesel pollution and it comes in the form of a diesel retrofit. OEC will purchase diesel oxidation catalysts (DOCs) which reduce pollution by as much as 30%. These controls are installed by removing the existing muffler and installing the control.

Each city will highlight recent efforts to “green up” their vehicle fleets and cut down on that black plume being emitted from the diesel vehicle tailpipe.

**WHAT:** Press event highlighting OEC’s gift to Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, and Parma Heights and efforts to green each fleet.

**WHO:** David R. Celebrezze, Director of Air & Water Special Projects, Ohio Environmental Council  
Mayor Ed Kelley, Cleveland Heights  
Joseph Sebes, Director of Human Services, Parma Heights  
Andrew Watterson, Sustainability Manager, City of Cleveland

**WHEN:** 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September, 23, 2008

**WHERE:** Cleveland Heights City Hall; 40 Severance circle Cleveland Heights OH 44118

**VISUALS:** Oversized checks

**CONTACTS:** David R. Celebrezze, Ohio Environmental Council, 614-487-7506

**ADDITIONAL CONTACTS:**

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