



**Policy #20**

**Southgate Anti-Idling Policy**

**Approved by Council on: May 14, 2008**

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**Background Information:**

This policy was created as a result of the Mayor's 2008 address to council that challenged staff to reduce energy consumption by 3% in 2008 and 10% by 2010. The EET (Energy Efficiency Team) committee was formed as a result of this and the anti-idling idea was put forward as recommendation by them and sent to council to approve an interest in such a policy. Council requested the EET Committee draft an anti-idling policy be created for final approval by council.

**Policy:**

No person shall permit a Southgate owned vehicle to idle for more than 3 (three) minutes in any 60 (sixty) minute period.

**Policy Exclusions:**

Excluded from this policy are the following vehicles that engage in operational activities where the idling of a vehicle is for the operation it is intended to perform such as:

- Fire Department vehicles while fighting a fire.
- Aerial Bucket truck while in operation of the boom equipment.
- Ambulance Rescue vehicles while in operation of performing duties of patient care and transportation.

**Implementation Plan the Anti-Idling Policy & other Energy Savings Ideas:**

An employee in each facility & or department or working unit will be appointed to be a contact person to help educate and inform other employees on this policy. They will also recommend energy savings ideas suggested by employees in their workplace and forward them to the EET (Energy Efficiency Team) committee as recommendations to save energy. This Southgate committee is empowered to evaluate and implement energy related cost savings policies and the replacement of existing infrastructure with energy efficient technology in all departments and in Southgate owned facilities in the Township. Over the next 8 months managers and EET contact people will work with staff to educate everyone on this policy. This is a change that will require a habit change in our day to day activities. Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 this policy will be a standard policy that all staff must comply with and accountability to management to ensure full compliance. It will also be part of the performance appraisal process should non-compliance be an issue.

**Policy Effective Date:**

This anti-idling policy will be effective May 14, 2008

## **Anti-Idling Education Program for Southgate**

### **Goal:**

**To reduce warm up idling time and at the same time save on energy consumption, improve operational efficiency of our equipment, improve air quality in Southgate.**

### **Economic Factors of Excessive Idling:**

- Estimates indicate that 3% of Ontario's fuel is wasted by idling
- Idling diesel engines burn about 2.5 liters per hour.
- Idling gasoline engines burn about 3.5 liters per hour.
- 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the engine.
- Lubricant contamination occurs in the engine from excessive idling causes soot to be created when the engine does run hot enough.
- Idling also causes water vapours that mix with sulphur oxides which creates sulphuric acid in the engine crankcase.

### **Facts About Warming Up Vehicle Engines:**

- From a cold start it is better to warm up an engine by driving it rather than idling.
- Warm up times are reduced to half and fuel consumption is reduced when driving is used to warm up a vehicle.
- Most cars and trucks are designed to warm up while driving at a moderate speed.
- In most weather conditions no more than 30 seconds of idling is required prior to driving your vehicle.