

a Lert Tips

Take Action All Summer Long

- **Drive less.** Try walking, biking, carpooling, or riding the bus. Think of the money you'll save on gas, parking and car up keep. For more information on carpooling go to www.green-traveler.org. Try the bus Tulsa Transit has 50¢ Fridays May—Aug.
- **Avoid long idle times.** Avoid idle times longer than 30 seconds by turning off your car when you're not in traffic.
- **Trip chain in the evening.** Combine errands into one trip to minimize "cold starts"
- **Refuel in the evening** and don't top off the tank.
- **Do your garden chores gasoline-free.** Avoid gas-powered yard tools until evening— or switch to electric-powered tools.

Take Action on Ozone Alert! Days

- **Leave your car at home.** Walk, bike, carpool, ride the bus or telecommute. Log your miles at www.green-traveler.org
- **Avoid idling.** On Alert! Days walk-in rather than drive-thru.
- **Bring your lunch to work.** "Brown bag it" or walk to lunch.
- **Postpone refueling.** Wait until evening or not at all on Alert! Days.
- **Postpone mowing and using other gasoline-powered lawn equipment.** Wait until evening or not at all on Alert! Days
- **Postpone errands on an Ozone Alert! Day.**
- **Sign up for Email Alert Notifications of Ozone Alert! Days** at www.ozonealert.com.

www.OzoneAlert.com



Mission

The Ozone Alert! program brings citizens, business, industry and government in the Tulsa Metropolitan area together to voluntarily reduce ozone-forming emissions on days vulnerable to high ozone levels.

www.OzoneAlert.com

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What is the Ozone Alert! Program?

The voluntary, proactive Ozone Alert! Program was created to maintain Tulsa's clean air status. The award-winning program has been widely replicated throughout the country. Cities such as Dallas/Ft. Worth, San Francisco, Cincinnati, and many others, large and small, have adopted the voluntary Ozone Alert! concept. And it works!

The Ozone Alert! Program predicts days when atmospheric conditions may cause unhealthy levels of ozone in Tulsa. This advance prediction allows the community to take **voluntary** measures to reduce ozone formation.

Good Up High, Bad Nearby

Ozone in the upper atmosphere is a beneficial and protective layer around the earth, but ground-level ozone is harmful air pollution that threatens our health, quality of life, and the Tulsa area's economic prosperity.

Ground-level ozone is created when sunlight reacts with volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NOx). Reducing these emissions is necessary to reduce ground-level ozone formation.

The Ozone Standard

The Clean Air Act gives the EPA authority to establish national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS). In the Tulsa metropolitan area, the pollutant of concern is ozone. As of now, the Tulsa area and the state of Oklahoma remain in attainment (not on the EPA's 'Dirty Air List') of the NAAQS.

The ozone standard provides increased protection to the public, especially children and other at-risk populations, against a wide range of ozone induced health effects.

New More Stringent Standard

In March 2008, the EPA revised the primary 8-hour standard to 0.075 ppm. The previous standard was set at 0.084 ppm.

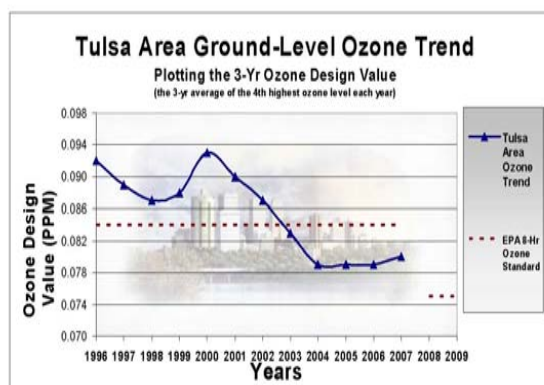
Local Air Quality

In the Tulsa metro area, there are five ozone monitoring stations (shown below) in the air shed.



If any one monitor violates the standard, the entire Tulsa area could be designated non-attainment. At the conclusion of the 2007 season, the Tulsa air shed remains in attainment—or not in violation—of the EPA ozone standard. But it's close.

We are making great progress toward cleaner air in the Tulsa area. It is a challenge that takes the community working together to make a difference. Together we can, and we are clearing our air!



Why should I care about the Ozone problem in Tulsa?

Exposure to ground level ozone is a threat to our health. Five groups of people are especially vulnerable to the effects of breathing ozone: children, senior citizens, people who work or exercise outdoors, people with preexisting respiratory disease (e.g., asthma or COPD) and "responders" who are otherwise healthy but have an enhanced reaction to ozone.

Ozone's effect on an individual's health can depend on many factors, including whether they are part of a susceptible population group, how much ozone is in the air, how rapidly they breathe and how long they are exposed to the ozone.

Immediate health concerns:

- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain when inhaling deeply
- Wheezing and coughing
- Increased susceptibility to respiratory infections

Exposure to ozone increases:

- Risk of premature mortality
- Pulmonary inflammation
- The risk of asthma attacks
- The need for people with lung diseases, such as asthma or COPD to go to the hospital.

No matter where you live in the Tulsa area, you probably affect and are affected by our air quality.

During the Ozone Season, Everyone can Help!

On certain summer days, conditions are ripe to create ground level ozone. On Ozone Alert! Days- everyone can take part in helping to solve the problem making the air healthier for all. The recipe for ground-level ozone is simple, and like any recipe, the ingredients must all be present and in the right proportions to make the final product.

Nox + VOC + Heat + Sunlight = Ozone

Since we can't control sunlight and heat, we must reduce the chemical pollutants- the ingredients- going into the air on Ozone Alert! Days if we want to reduce ozone.