



ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Procedure Number: 49-4

Effective Date: 04/01/2011

Revision Date: _____

C. Dulbeau

County Administrator

SUBJECT: **VEHICLE ANTI-IDLING**

DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE: **FLEET SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

I. STATEMENT

The Pima County anti-idling procedure is implemented to protect public health and improve the environment by reducing vehicle emissions while conserving fuel and reducing costs. Idling vehicles achieve zero miles per gallon, while continuing to emit carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds and other pollutants into the air. Studies show two (2) minutes of vehicle idling wastes one mile's worth of fuel. In addition, idling five (5) minutes each day created close to five (5) pounds of pollution a year. Air pollutants from vehicle emissions contribute to difficulties with diseases such as asthma, emphysema, bronchitis, and congestive heart failure. In addition to reducing air and noise pollution and improving public health, less idling time is good for the environment because it reduces fuel use, lengthens engine life, and ultimately saves money on fuel and vehicle maintenance. Reducing idling makes good business sense and is good for the health of our community.

II. PROCEDURES

This procedure reflects the goals of the Resolution in Support of New County Sustainability Initiatives adopted by the Pima County Board of Supervisors on May 1, 2007.

Effective immediately, unless otherwise exempted in this procedure, no County vehicle or piece of equipment may be idled in a non-emergency situation for more than 30 seconds for regular vehicles and 3 minutes for diesel vehicles.

For safety reasons, vehicles should not be turned off at traffic signals or in routine traffic situations.

EXEMPTIONS

Idling is allowed in the following situations as needed:

1. Vehicles where lights, Power Take Offs (PTOs), or other accessories are needed.
2. During the engine warm up period, vehicles may be idled for longer periods to ensure the vehicle or equipment is at peak operating temperature before leaving the facility.
3. Law enforcement personnel undertaking documentation and computer access tasks regularly conducted in their vehicles.

III. RESPONSIBILITY

Operators of vehicle/equipment and supervisors will be judicious in the idling of units at emergency scenes and job sites. Units may be idled only if required by the nature of the emergency or job; all other units must be turned-off and the keys removed from the ignition.

ENFORCEMENT

1. Department Directors are responsible for ensuring all employees are made aware of the Anti-Idling procedure and shall have procedures in place to be in compliance.
2. Employees who fail to comply are subject to disciplinary action with Pima County progressive discipline procedures.