

## **City of Sherburn Vehicle Idling Policy**

### **Purpose/Scope**

This policy is intended to address three issues - air pollution, carbon emissions into the atmosphere and vehicle fuel expense. Air pollution can cause or aggravate lung illnesses such as acute respiratory infections, asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and lung cancer. Carbon emissions have been linked to climate change. The cost of vehicle fuel has a direct impact on City financial resources.

City of Sherburn employees can play an important role in improving air quality and reducing fuel expense by limiting the amount of time engines are allowed to run and idle. This policy shall be enforced by the City Administrator and failure to adhere to the policy shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

### **Policy**

It is the policy of the City of Sherburn that City owned vehicles are not to be left running when they are unattended nor shall they be left idling while parked.

A driver of a City of Sherburn vehicle must:

1. Turn off the engine upon stopping at a destination and/or exiting the vehicle.
2. Not allow an engine to idle at any location for more than five minutes.

An operator of an off-road piece of equipment must:

1. Turn off the engine when the attendant is on break or lunch.
2. Not allow an engine to idle at any location for more than five minutes.

Idling is not permitted solely for the comfort of the driver or passengers or in situations where the vehicle is in its close proximity to its assigned indoor parking space.

Exceptions to this policy include the following:

1. Necessary for an official traffic control device or signal or traffic conditions such as stopped in a line of traffic, at a railroad crossing, at a construction zone, or at the direction of a police officer;
2. Necessary for accomplishing work for which the vehicle operates a lift, hoist, crane, drill, pump, excavating, pipe cleaning or televising equipment;
3. Required for vehicle inspection, maintenance, testing, or repair;
4. Occupants' health, safety, welfare, or the vehicle has equipment that is temperature sensitive and would be compromised if the vehicle were not maintained at an adequate temperature;
5. Necessary to remove ice and snow and defrost windows enabling the vehicle to be driven safely;
6. Necessary for providing public safety and/or emergency medical services.
7. During winter weather conditions (below 0 degrees or during heavy snowfall), the City Administrator may suspend this policy temporarily to permit vehicles to be left idling to maintain a state of responsiveness and/or to ensure the safety of employees operating them.