

Leaving your engine running when you're parked creates **20 times more pollution** than when driving at 30mph. What's more, you're literally burning money. So, if you're going to be parked for more than a minute –

TURN IT OFF.

**IDLING...
SWITCH OFF
FOR CLEANER AIR**



WORKING TOGETHER FOR CLEANER AIR

The problem

In Hertfordshire, we have the second worst air quality in England, after London. The chemicals that vehicles release when idling irritate the lungs, lower resistance to infection and make conditions like asthma, heart and lung disease worse. Exposure to these chemicals is highest when multiple vehicles are idling together such as at taxi ranks and school collection points.

Around 50,000 people die prematurely each year because of exposure to air pollution and children are especially vulnerable. Pollution also contributes to global warming.

The solution



It's so easy to play your part in improving our air quality. Simply switch off your engine if you're going to be parked for more than a minute.

The myths

- Idling your car is not the best way to warm your car in cold weather. The best way is to drive it.
- Restarting does not deteriorate the engine and battery – it has little impact on engine parts.
- Restarting your engine doesn't use more fuel than idling.



Not only will it reduce pollution it will also save you money. Did you know that you waste about ½ a litre of fuel for every hour that is spent idling?



If you want to help even more, think about leaving the car behind and walking, cycling or using public transport. You'll also be doing your own health a favour.

For information on other measures you can take to do your bit for air quality, please visit www.stalbans.gov.uk/greentravel