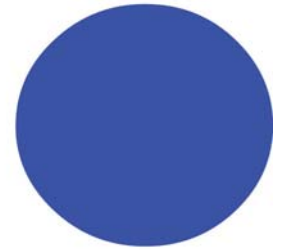


# ALERT! *November 2008*

*ALERT* is a monthly update on transportation and air quality planning activities in the Delaware Valley.



## AIR QUALITY

### **U.S. EPA Strengthens Engine Standards for Lawn Equipment and Boats**

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced strict new standards for gas-powered lawn equipment and marine engines to reduce ground level ozone and fine particle pollution. The regulations are scheduled to take effect in 2010 for small watercraft and 2011 for lawn and garden equipment.

When fully implemented the rule is expected to yield annual emissions reductions of 600,000 tons of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), 130,000 tons of Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), 5,500 tons of direct particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and 1.5 million tons of carbon monoxide (CO). VOCs and NO<sub>x</sub> are the primary components of ground level ozone pollution.

These regulations include the first national standards for boats powered by inboard engines and CO standards for personal watercraft. Manufacturers are expected to employ catalytic converters for the first time in both lawn equipment and small watercraft to meet the new regulations. EPA conducted rigorous analysis and stakeholder outreach to insure that these standards are both attainable and able to be safely implemented in the targeted engines.

Each year Americans spend more than 3 billion hours using lawn and garden equipment and more than 500 million hours in recreational boating. Emissions from these engines have both local and regional health and air quality impacts. The regulations are expected to prevent 300 premature deaths, 1,700 hospitalizations and 23,000 missed days of work, saving Americans between \$1.6 and \$4.4 billion by 2030.

For more information on the regulations please visit:

Lawn and Garden (Small Gasoline) Equipment: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/equip-ld.htm>

Gasoline Boats and Personal Watercraft: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/marinesi.htm>



**Monday,  
November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Air Quality Partnership  
Board Meeting  
10:00 am**

DVRPC Conference Center  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
6<sup>th</sup> and Race Streets  
Philadelphia, PA

**Monday,  
November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
Philadelphia Diesel  
Difference  
Working Group  
10:00 am**

DVRPC Conference Center  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
6<sup>th</sup> and Race Streets  
Philadelphia, PA



## Transportation and Air Quality

### Governor Rendell Signs PA Anti-idling Law

On October 9, 2008, Gov. Rendell signed the Diesel-Powered Motor Vehicle Idling Act into law (Act 124). The law takes effect 120 days from enactment and restricts most diesel-powered motor vehicles over 10,000 pounds from idling more than five minutes in any continuous 60-minute period. The law does include exceptions for farm equipment and vehicles stuck in traffic as well as exceptions for situations where the vehicles are required to idle to power auxiliary equipment such as defrosters, heaters or cargo refrigeration units. Special considerations are included for climate control for school buses and mandatory trucker rest periods when temperatures dip below 40 degrees or above 75 degrees Fahrenheit.

Violating the anti-idling law is a summary offense and the bill allows the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and local police to issue fines of between \$150 and \$300 for each violation. All or portions of the fines will be credited to the state Clean Air Fund, depending on whether DEP or municipal police issue the ticket.

Reducing diesel idling in Pennsylvania is expected to significantly reduce fine particulate pollution (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) especially in areas located near major interstate connections and truck stop locations.



## Long Range Plan

### DVRPC is a Holding Series of Public Workshops to Shape *Connections 2035* Long-Range Plan

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission is holding a series of public outreach workshops to collect input to help shape the goals of the *Connections 2035* Long-Range Plan.

The long-range plan for the region provides a blueprint for how the region should grow over the next twenty five years, and includes transportation, land use, environmental and economic development goals. Public input is critical in developing widespread support so that the plan is able to be implemented and inform decisions about the future of the region.

DVRPC will be holding a workshop in each of the nine counties in the region throughout October and November.

If you would like to attend one of these workshops please visit: <http://www.dvrpc.org/connections> and click on "Public Workshops".

<p>ALERT! is a DVRPC publication.</p>	 <p><b>Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission</b> DVRPC, 8th Floor 190 N. Independence Mall West Philadelphia, PA 19106-1520 Phone 215.592.1800 Fax 215.592.9125 <a href="http://www.dvrpc.org">www.dvrpc.org</a></p>
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