

## OZONE ACTION DAYS



# TOP 10 TIPS

**1. Limit your Driving**

Try not to drive at all and especially not before 10 a.m. Take your lunch to work, avoid midday trips from your workplace. For short trips consider riding your bicycle or walking. Other options include carpooling, vanpooling, working at home, faxing, teleconferencing.

**2. Drive "Emissionwise"**

Drive your lowest emission vehicle, minimize cold starts by combining trips, avoid jack rabbit acceleration, avoid excessive idling, avoid traffic congested areas.

**3. Refuel Carefully**

Refuel after 6:00 p.m. Avoid spills and don't try to top off your tank.

**4. Maintain Your Vehicle**

This helps minimize pollutant emissions and maintains fuel efficiency.

**5. Don't Mow Your Lawn Or Use Gas-Powered Lawn Equipment Or Wait, If Possible Until After 6:00 P.M.**

Lawn care machines produce more pollution than you think. A gas powered lawnmower produces more pollution than 70 new automobiles.

**6. Postpone Oil-Based Paint and Solvent Use**

**7. Barbecue With Electric Starter, Not Fluid Starters**

**8. Conserve Energy In Your Home**

**9. Take Public Transportation**

**10. Spread The Word**

Talk to coworkers and neighbors about Ozone Action Day.

The Baton Rouge area has an air pollution problem. On hot, sunny, windless days, high levels of smog can form.

The most dangerous element of smog is ozone, a colorless, odorless gas. In the upper atmosphere, ozone protects our health by shielding us from the sun's damaging ultraviolet rays. However, ozone in the lower atmosphere is a health hazard.

Ozone is a respiratory irritant that effects everyone, especially children, elderly, and people who suffer from heart and lung diseases. It can cause shortness of breath, coughing, wheezing, and eye and nose irritation.

In early 1996, the Baton Rouge Clean Air Coalition, an alliance of local governments, businesses, educational institutions, civic and environmental organizations, and the general public, joined forces to combat the region's ozone problem. Through the new voluntary Ozone Action Program, participating employers encourage actions to reduce their contributions to ozone on days when the Department of Environmental Quality forecasts an "Ozone Action Day", when elevated levels of ozone are expected. The general public can also be a part of these efforts by following the "Top 10 Tips", listed on opposite side, on Ozone Action Days.

Together we can all take steps to make our air cleaner. For more information about the Clean Air Coalition's Ozone Action Program, write or call:

**CAPITAL REGION PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**225.383.5203**

**LA DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**225.765.0219**

**CLEAN AIR COALITION**  
**225.683.4425**