

YUWO Climate Action Network Tip #1:

DECREASE AIR POLLUTION BY DECREASING IDLING

What perceptions do we hold that keep us from turning off our engines instead of idling?

Misperception #1 – Letting my car warm up is good for its engine.

Fact: Car manufacturers agree that even on the coldest days, a car's catalytic converter is optimal "at work" versus standing.

Misperception #2 – On a cold day, it takes too long to warm up my car unless I let it idle first.

Fact: A driving vehicle reaches its ideal operating temperature faster by driving than idling. In fact, your vehicle warms up twice as fast in motion than running at rest.

Misperception #3 – I save more money on gas by idling versus re-starting my car

Fact: Contrary to perception, starting a car burns less fuel and emits less CO₂ than idling your car. In America, we empty our wallets by spending a whopping \$13 million every day on gasoline by idling.

Misperception #4 – Starting and restarting my car will wear out the engine more quickly.

Contrary to popular belief, idling can damage engine components. According to the California Energy Commission, "Fuel is only partially combusted when idling because an engine does not operate at its peak temperature. This leads to the build-up of fuel residues on cylinder walls that can damage engine components and increase fuel consumption." Many new cars also come with the Auto-Start/Stop function. This automatically starts and stops the engine when a car comes to a stop while in driving mode. Keeping the auto-start/stop function activated has proven to save money at the fuel pump while reducing emissions in the atmosphere.