



Bi State Region Clean Air Partnership Checklist & Pledge

The Bi-State Region Clean Air Partnership supports and promotes cleaner air by seeking out and implementing cost effective solutions that benefit cleaner air- fuel efficiency, cleaner fuels/vehicles, alternative transportation, trip reduction, environmentally friendly purchasing, alternative energy, and energy efficiency and conservation. Each voluntary commitment reduces ground level ozone and particulate matter regionally and contributes to cleaner air globally.

To become a member of the Bi-State Region Clean Air Partnership, fill out the checklist below and return with your signed pledge to the Bi-State Regional Commission. It is expected that all of the suggestions in the checklist will not be possible by every partner, but any improvements from “business as usual” will help foster a cleaner environment in the Bi-State Region. Try to find at least one activity in each category that is not a current practice to pledge to implement. Recognition of existing best practices will also be important for partners who proactively have taken a “green leadership” role in our region. Members will be featured on the partnership website, which will also offer resources to members for improving air quality. Periodic inventories will check the progress of members and outstanding organizations will be recognized. Remember... “it all adds up to cleaner air”...what you do today and choose to implement tomorrow.

Transportation

Transportation is by far the leading cause of air pollution in the bi-state region. From personal cars to freight, the numerous vehicles operating in the region significantly add to air pollution, especially ground level ozone and particulate matter. By reducing the number of trips, choosing alternative transportation and investing in more fuel efficient vehicles and less-polluting fuels, we can all have a positive impact on air quality.

FLEET MANAGEMENT

Current Practice	Will Implement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose lower emission vehicles, hybrid electrics or vehicles that use alternative fuels (E85, Biodiesel, Compressed Natural Gas, etc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maintain all fleet vehicles. Tune up your vehicle every 5,000-10,000 miles, adjust brakes and check tire pressure regularly.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retrofit diesel engines
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Refuel vehicles in the early morning or in the evening to reduce the chance of ground-level ozone formation. This occurs when the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the gasoline react with sunlight.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Practice "Right Size Vehicle" policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Avoid quick starts, excessive idling and maintain a constant speed over the course of a trip
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Implement anti-idling policy

COMMUTING

Current Practice	Will Implement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide and encourage employees to use Direct Deposit
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Offer telecommuting and teleconferencing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement e-commerce/ e-governments by increasing the amount of business accomplished online (online forms, purchasing, etc)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Offer a compressed work week or a flex-work schedule
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Schedule meetings and deliveries during non-peak hours (10AM- 2:30PM)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Encourage carpooling by offering preferential parking and guaranteed ride home
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement parking pricing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Offer transit pass subsidies (e.g. Implement commuter tax benefit for mass transit subsidies)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Encourage biking or walking to work by providing showers and secure bike racks
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Encourage employees to bring a brown bag lunch
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Offer employee education on Smart Driving techniques

Energy and Emissions Reductions

With heavy reliance on coal-powered electricity, it is especially important for those of us in the Midwest to associate energy usage with air quality deterioration. Although the pollution from power plants is not readily visible when you turn on a light or plug in electronics, it is easy to avoid with simple, cost-effective measures. An inventory can help you better understand the impact of these activities on air quality and suggest ways to increase energy efficiency and save money.

ENERGY

Current Practice	Will Implement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct energy/lighting audits and implement energy management programs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Use LED outdoor lighting. Governments can implement LED traffic lights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Incorporate natural lighting into the building environment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Turn off lights in empty rooms and replace incandescent bulbs with fluorescent light bulbs
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Use Energy Star and energy efficient equipment
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Set thermostat 2° warmer in the summer and 2° cooler in the winter. Use a timer to turn down the heat/air conditioning in the evenings and on weekends.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Use low energy mode or shut off electronics when not in use
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Invest in alternative energy or implement building-level alternative energy (e.g. solar, wind or geothermal)

EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Current Practice	Will Implement	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct emissions inventories and set goals to reduce emissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Create an emissions reductions plan
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enroll in an offsetting program

Operations and Maintenance

Although transportation and energy are in the forefront of air pollution issues, there are many day-to-day activities associated with operation and maintenance of an organization that can have an impact on air quality. From reducing waste, to purchasing locally, to conserving resources... "It all adds up to cleaner air".

LESSEN WASTE

Current Practice	Will Implement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduce office waste by printing double sided or using electronic documents. Use refillable pens and pencils and biodegradable packing materials/kitchen ware.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reuse materials. Use reuseable plates, cups and cutlery. Reuse boxes and envelopes.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Implement a recycling program that incorporates paper, plastic, cardboard, glass and metal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recycle electronics, lighting and ink cartridges
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choose electric, propane or solar powered tools including lawn care equipment. Avoid using gasoline powered mowers and other small spark engines, especially on poor air quality days.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reducing mowing times by using native landscaping. This also cuts down on water and fertilizer usage.

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PURCHASING

Current Practice	Will Implement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Purchase cleaning products with non-toxic, natural and biodegradable ingredients.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Avoid cleaning products with chlorine bleach, phosphates, EDTA & NTA, petroleum-based solvents and other toxic compounds.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dilute concentrated products
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Purchase non-toxic and water-based office supplies
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Buy recycled products and choose products with recycled/ recyclable packaging
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Buy products from companies who take responsibility for the life-cycle of their products. This means that the company ensures the materials for the product were collected/made in an environmentally friendly way and that the company takes responsibility for the disposal/ recycling of the product.

Current Practice	Will Implement
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Purchase goods locally to reduce the emissions caused by transporting materials.

MAINTENANCE EMISSIONS

Current Practice	Will Implement
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Use low or no VOCs paints, sealers, solvents and glues

Store solvents in air tight containers

Dispose of hazardous materials properly

Avoid over-filling gasoline equipment or tanks.

Replace small-spark engine equipment with models made with emission controls (after 2007)- (e.g. lawn-mowers, leaf-blowers, chain-saws,etc.)

Particulate Matter (PM2.5)

Particulate matter smaller than 2.5 microns (or PM2.5) is of particular concern in the Bi-State Region as federal standards have tightened and we inch closer and closer to non-attainment. High levels of PM2.5 are not only bad for the environment and human health, but can also have economic impacts. A non-attainment designation may mean more regulations, fewer road projects and loss of economic development opportunities to areas in attainment. The largest source of PM2.5 in the region is from vehicles. Again, by reducing the number of trips, choosing alternative transportation and investing in more fuel efficient vehicles and less-polluting fuels, we can increase the physical and economic health of our communities.

REDUCING PM2.5 EMISSIONS

Current Practice	Will Implement
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Use and advocate alternative transportation. Any decrease in the number of vehicles, decreases particulate matter emissions.

Retrofit wood burning and soot producing stoves and heaters

Reduce energy usage.

Pledge

I, the undersigned representative, pledge my organization to contribute to cleaner air in the Bi-State region.

Signature

Printed Name: _____

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____