

What's
More Important
than the
Air
We
Breathe?



Minnesota is experiencing an upward trend in smog (ground-level ozone). Fine particles, sometimes called soot, are also creating pollution problems. **Clean Air Minnesota**, a voluntary partnership of businesses, environmental groups, government agencies and citizens, is working to fight air pollution. The **City of Minneapolis** and **Hennepin County** are key partners in this effort.

YOU can help by limiting the use of gasoline-powered yard care equipment,

Clean Air Minnesota is a program of the nonprofit Minnesota Environmental Initiative.



one source of air pollution. Postpone the use of gas-powered equipment during Air Pollution Alerts (see over), use newer, more efficient yard care equipment and/or convert some of your lawn to lower-maintenance landscaping.

For more air information, see www.cleanairminnesota.org or www.minneapolis.ci.mn.us

Watch for the
May 22 Mow Down Pollution
Lawn Mower Exchange!

Take the
Clean Air
Landscaping
online PLEDGE
and become eligible
to WIN a free
electric lawnmower

visit www.hennepin.us
(keyword search: clean air)

donated by
CAM partner Frattallone's
Ace Hardware & Garden

Hurry, pledges
must be received by
June 30, 2004

Sign Up NOW to Receive E-mail Air Pollution Alerts!

Air Pollution and Your Health

Ground-level ozone (smog) is a serious air quality problem. Even at low levels, ozone can cause a number of respiratory effects—children and people with asthma are the groups most at risk. In the Twin Cities, ozone is most often created when several pollutants ‘cook’ in the air on hot, sunny days. These pollutants come from a variety of sources, including cars, trucks, power plants and wood burning. Fine particle (soot) pollution is linked to heart problems and may even lead to premature death in people with cardiovascular or respiratory disease.

What is the AQI? How Can You Sign Up?

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s Air Quality Index (AQI) is a scale used to report actual levels of ozone and other common air pollutants. The higher the AQI value, the greater the health concerns. To sign up for e-mail alerts, go to: <http://aqi.pca.state.mn.us/hourly/>

AQI



minnesota pollution
control agency

When the AQI Goes Up, You Should ...

Protect Yourself: Reduce long-term outdoor exertion.

Protect Your Planet: Limit driving, carpool or postpone errands; Refuel when it’s cool, after 8 p.m.; Don’t use small gas engines; Postpone indoor/outdoor fires; Conserve electricity.



Minneapolis
City of Lakes

City of Minneapolis
Environmental Management
612 . 673-5874

Hennepin County
Environmental Services
612 . 348-3563