**The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh**

**Policy on Vehicle Idling**

Original Issuance Date: TBD

Last Revision Date:

Next Review Date:

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to eliminate unnecessary idling of all vehicles on University property. Vehicle idling wastes fuel, degrades air quality, and emits unnecessary pollutants and greenhouse gases that contribute to warming in the atmosphere and have adverse effects on public health. This policy is in accordance with the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh’s efforts to reduce CO2 emissions under the Climate Action and Resiliency Plan and the Strategic Plan.

1. RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

Campus Sustainability Director

1. SCOPE

This policy applies to all UWO fleet vehicles as well as privately owned vehicles of UWO employees and students, as well as visitors and individuals in vehicles with contracted services to UWO such as vending, package delivery, etc.

1. BACKGROUND
2. This policy is in alignment with the UWO’s commitment to climate neutrality by 2030. Unnecessary vehicle idling adds to University and global emissions, increasing air pollution which deteriorates air quality and public health. Unnecessary vehicle idling wastes fuel as well and increases costs for the University and individuals.
3. DEFINITIONS

Vehicle idling: A vehicle’s engine is running while not in motion, but for necessary purposes.

Unnecessary idling: A vehicle’s engine is left running unnecessarily while stopped, and may include the driver leaving the idling vehicle unattended.

1. POLICY STATEMENT
2. It is the policy of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh to continually improve the efficient use of vehicle fuels to reduce emissions and operating costs.
3. To reduce overall emissions on campus and improve air quality, operators of all vehicles on university property, regardless of ownership, will adhere to the following standards:  
   1. Idling is prohibited when the ambient temperature is between 25°F and 85°F (with the limited exceptions listed below).
   2. Maximum idle time shall be limited to five (5) minutes when ambient temperature is below 25°F and above 85°F (with the limited exceptions listed below).
   3. Vehicles may not be left idling when the operator is away from the vehicle (with the limited exceptions listed below).
   4. Idling is prohibited in ‘No Idle Zones.’ Signs indicate the location of these zones.
4. The following exceptions apply to the above policy:   
   1. Health or safety reasons (e.g., severe weather conditions, use of vehicle safety features);
   2. The motor vehicle idles while forced to remain motionless because of traffic, a traffic control device or signal, or at the direction of a law enforcement official;
   3. A police, fire, ambulance, public safety, or other emergency or law enforcement motor vehicle, or any motor vehicle used in an emergency capacity, idles while in an emergency situation or training mode or for the continued use/operation of field equipment and not for the convenience of the operator;
   4. The motor vehicle is owned by an electric utility and is operated for electrical generation of hydraulic pressure to power equipment necessary in the restoration, repair, modification, or installation of electric utility service;
   5. An armored motor vehicle idles when a person remains inside the vehicle to guard the contents, or while the vehicle is being loaded and unloaded;
   6. When idling of the motor vehicle is necessary to operate auxiliary equipment to accomplish the intended use of the vehicle (such as operating refrigeration equipment, lift, crane, pump, drill hoist, or concrete mixer), provided that this exemption does not apply when the vehicle is idling solely for cabin comfort or to operate equipment that it nonessential to the intended use of the vehicle;
   7. A motor vehicle idles as part of a government inspection to verify that all equipment is in good working order, provided idling is required as part of the inspection;
   8. The engine idles when necessary for maintenance, servicing, or diagnostic purposes.
   9. Below 0°F for diesel vehicles;
   10. Traffic conditions – Supervisors may approve exemptions for specific vehicles if necessary.
5. The UWO Police Department shall enforce this policy by:
   1. Include idling policy language in the terms of service when purchasing a parking permit. Additionally, signage will be added to campus parking lots to inform drivers of UWO’s commitment to being a no-idling zone.
   2. First offense consequence: Individuals who violate this policy will receive an informational card that describes the reasons for not idling and exceptions when idling is allowed.
   3. Second offense consequence: UWO Police Department may refer students who violate this policy to the Dean of Students and student and non-student violators may receive a warning or a citation.
6. REFERENCES: [University of Maine’s Idling policy](https://umaine.edu/sustainability/initiatives/idling/)

**ES 390 Senior Capstone Project:** Vehicle Idling Report

1. PROCEDURES

[This section needs to specify who initiates the standard review of the policy, how often, and who approves the review and any changes to the policy.]

1. REVISION HISTORY

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APPROVED BY:

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| Chancellor Andrew Leavitt |