



Northeast Ohio Ozone Action Day Program

What is the Purpose of the Ozone Action Day Program?

The purposes of this program are to increase awareness of the possible health impacts of ground-level ozone pollution and to improve air quality by reducing the emissions that contribute to it.

Similar to recycling programs, the Ozone Action Day program is voluntary and it is aimed at encouraging people to make behavioral changes that will benefit them and the air we breathe.

The chances of maintaining clean air are improved if businesses, governments, and individuals voluntarily take action to reduce emission on Ozone Action Days. In fact, these no-cost or low-cost voluntary actions make our air cleaner and healthier every day they are taken.

Why is the Program Important?

Although Northeast Ohio achieved the former USEPA standard for ozone pollution during the mid-1990's, USEPA has now identified a revised, more stringent standard for the entire country to meet. Northeast Ohio does not meet the new standard and has been declared to be in "nonattainment" for ozone.

The new standard is based on 8-hour average concentrations, which are more protective of human health and which more accurately reflect the intent of the federal Clean Air Act.

Northeast Ohio includes the counties of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit. The Ozone Action Day program covers all of these counties and, with enough participation from the public, it will help the area to come into attainment again. Over the next three years, the Ohio EPA will also suggest other ways to help alleviate the ozone pollution problem.

Failure to solve the region's air pollution problems not only damages the public health but it could eventually result in federal sanctions, such as the loss of federal highway dollars.

NORTHEAST

Working

OHIO

Together

OZONE

For

ACTION

Cleaner

DAY

Air

PROGRAM

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