Do Your Part to Keep Our Air Clean

OUT and ABOUT

- Limit driving and idling by combining errands, or carpool, use public transportation, bike, or walk.
- Refuel in late afternoon or evening.
- Don't top off the tank when refueling your vehicle.
- Keep your car, boat, and other engines properly tuned, and avoid engines that smoke.
- Be sure your tires are properly inflated.

IN YOUR HOME

- Use paint and cleaning products with fewer emissions.
- Follow manufacturers' recommendations for use and properly seal cleaners, paints, and other chemicals to prevent evaporation into the air.
- Conserve electricity. Consider setting your thermostat a little higher in the summer and lower in winter.
- Participate in local energy-conservation programs.

IN YOUR YARD and GARDEN

- Maintain yard equipment, including changing the oil and replacing air filters.
- Plant Texas native plants.
- Consider using tools without motors. Hand tools are lightweight and easy to use and do not generate emissions.
- Plant trees to reduce utility bills.

For more tips on keeping our air clean, visit <TakeCareOfTexas.org/air-quality>.

Air Quality Resources

Get the latest forecast for air quality conditions in Texas' metropolitan areas from **Today's Texas Air Quality Forecast** at <tceq.texas.gov/goto/airtoday>.

Download these publications from <TakeCareOfTexas.org> or order copies by e-mailing <educate@tceq.texas.gov>:

Ozone: The Facts (GI-435)
Answers to general questions about ozone.

Particulate Matter: The Facts (GI-274)
Answers to general questions about particulate matter.

For more information and other resources, visit the TCEQ's air Web page <tceq.texas.gov/goto/air-main>.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

TakeCareOfTexas.org

Take Care of Texas, MC 109
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711

512-239-3929

educate@tceq.texas.gov

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

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How is our customer service?
tceq.texas.gov/customersurvey

Keep Our Air Clean

Take Care of Texas™
It's the only one we've got.

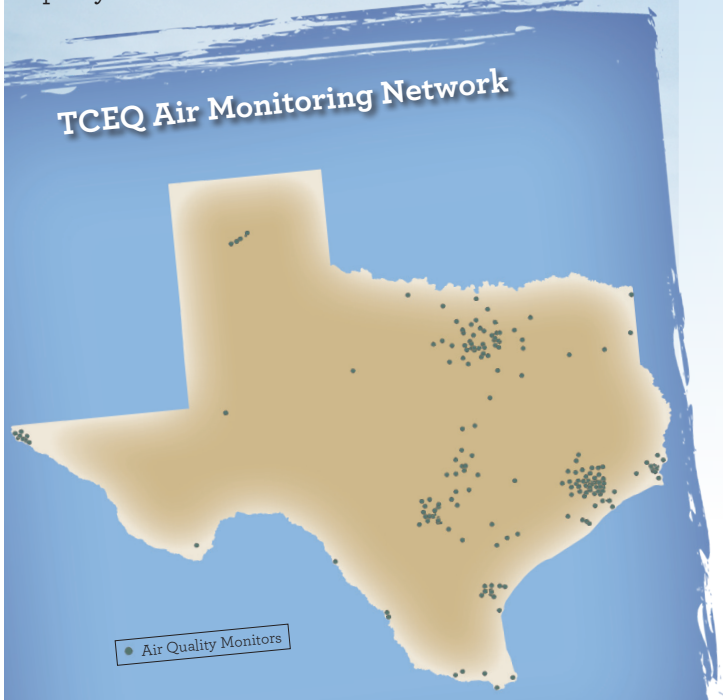
TakeCareOfTexas.org

Take Care of Texas
is a statewide campaign from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality that provides helpful information on Texas' successes in environmental protection and encourages all Texans to

- help keep our air and water clean,
- conserve water and energy,
- reduce waste, and
- save a little money in the process!

CLEAN AIR TEXAS

Texas has one of the most extensive, aggressive air monitoring programs in the nation. Air monitors across Texas provide more than 26 million data points per year.



For detailed information, please visit <tceq.texas.gov/agency/air_main.html>

Texas currently meets nearly all air quality standards. For specific information on air quality in Texas visit <TakeCareOfTexas.org/air-quality-resources>.

TEXAS AIR QUALITY CONTINUES to IMPROVE

Voluntary efforts, sound science, and targeted regulations have **significantly improved air quality** over the last 15 years—despite Texas' growing population.

- From 2000 to 2014, **ozone levels in Texas decreased by 29 percent**.
- By comparison, the rest of the nation averaged only a 16 percent decrease in ozone levels over the same period.
- Texas has **devoted significant resources to air quality monitoring and research** during the past decade in order to better understand air quality and to develop effective controls when needed.
- Between 2000 and 2013, emissions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x), a precursor to ozone, **decreased 63 percent** from major industrial sources.

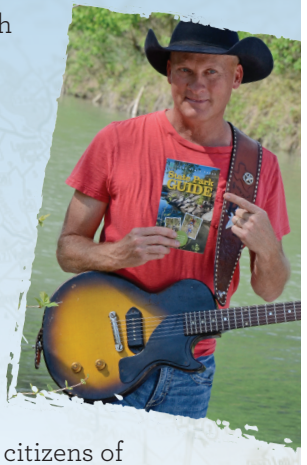
Find more Texas Air Quality Successes at <TakeCareOfTexas.org/air-quality-successes>.

Enjoy the Outdoors

Scientific evidence indicates the air within homes and other buildings can be two to five times more polluted than the outdoor air. On average, Texans are spending about 90 percent or more of their time indoors, a great increase over 20 years ago. Consequently, the concentration of pollutants multiplied by the time in that environment is typically greater indoors than outdoors, which results in a greater health risk due to exposure to indoor air pollution.

For more information on indoor air quality visit the U.S. EPA's page Indoor Air Quality at <epa.gov/iaq/> and the Texas Department of State Health Services' page at <dshs.state.tx.us/iaq/>. Get outside to stay fit and enjoy the clean air, water, and unique Texas landscapes.

KEEPING OUR TEXAS AIR CLEAN



- The **TCEQ** teamed up with country recording artist Kevin Fowler to produce public service announcements that promote getting outdoors to take advantage of Texas' clean land, water, and air. Visit <TakeCareOfTexas.org>.
- The **TCEQ's Smoking Vehicle Program** (800-453-SMOG) is a public-outreach strategy to encourage the citizens of Texas to voluntarily maintain and repair their cars, trucks, and buses and to promote public awareness regarding the harmful emissions and air pollution caused by smoking vehicles. Visit <smokingvehicle.org>.
- The TCEQ offers funding through the **Texas Clean School Bus Grant Program** to improve the health of schoolchildren and bus drivers by reducing emissions of diesel exhaust from buses. More than 7,200 buses across the state have been retrofitted since the beginning of the program. Download the grant application at <TexasCleanSchoolBus.org> and get your school's buses in line for these retrofits!
- The **Texas Emissions Reduction Plan** provides financial incentives to eligible individuals, businesses, and local governments to reduce emissions from polluting vehicles and equipment. Find grants and details at <terpgrants.org>.
- **Air Check Texas—Drive a Clean Machine** is a TCEQ program that provides financial assistance to help remove older, more polluting vehicles from Texas roadways. Find details at <driveacleanmachine.com>.