

TRAVEL GREEN.

LIVE GREEN.

Air Quality Fact Sheet

Air Pollution

- Ground-level ozone is a hazardous air pollutant, formed in the atmosphere when volatile organic compounds (VOCs), such as gasoline vapors, react in the presence of sunlight. Ozone is a key ingredient in “smog,” and is most prevalent on hot, sunny days when temperatures reach the 90s. – *Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency (Spokane Clean Air)*
- An estimated 56% of people in the U.S. live in areas that have unhealthful levels of ozone. – *The State of the Air: 2010 Report, American Lung Association*

Air Quality & Health

- Reducing air pollution has extended life expectancy. Due to a drop in particle pollution between 1980 and 2000, life expectancy in 51 US cities increased by 5 months on average. – *The State of the Air: 2010 Report, American Lung Association.*
- A person breathes about 35 gallons of air each day, which is over 20,000 breaths. In a lifetime, one person will take about 625 million breaths.
- It is estimated that 1 out of every 3 people in the US is at a higher risk of experiencing health problems from ground-level ozone. – *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)*
- Air pollution contributes to lung disease, which is the third-leading cause of death in the U.S. – *American Lung Association*
- There is evidence linking air pollution to heart attacks, strokes and cardiovascular death. – *American Heart Association*

Air Quality and Motor Vehicles

- Emissions from gasoline stations account for approximately 40% of Spokane’s total stationary source VOC emissions. VOCs contributed to ground-level ozone pollution. – *Spokane Clean Air*
- If every commuter car carried just one more passenger, we’d save 30-40 million gallons of gasoline. – *Transportation Choices Coalition.*

Air Quality and Yard Care

- Using a gas-powered lawn mower for one hour produces the same amount of pollution as driving a car 100 miles. – *EPA*

For more **Travel Green. Live Green.** information visit www.spokanecleanair.org

