

## Who is the RAQC?

Established in 1989, the Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC) is the lead air quality planning organization for Colorado's Front Range. The council (board members) are appointed by the Governor. As an independent nonprofit, it is run by a small, dedicated staff.

## What do we do?

The RAQC works with state agencies to create plans to improve air quality and run programs that directly benefit the Front Range community. The area we serve is a nine-county region that is out of compliance with federal standards for ground-level ozone, including: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, Jefferson, Larimer, and Weld Counties.

## What is ground-level ozone?

Ground-level ozone is the Front Range's most pressing air quality problem. Emissions from gas-powered vehicles, gas-powered lawn equipment, and oil and gas production combine on sunny, summer days to form this invisible, odorless pollutant that irritates our throats and lungs, increases our susceptibility to respiratory infections, and exacerbates ailments such as asthma.



Visit our website to learn about what simple steps you can take for better air!

Sign up for summer ozone air quality alerts. Text **"BetterAirCO"** to **21000** or sign up for email alerts at **SimpleStepsBetterAir.org**.

**Follow us on social media:**



REGIONAL AIR QUALITY COUNCIL

Stay in touch: sign up for our e-newsletter!

**[www.raqc.org](http://www.raqc.org)**

**Follow us on social media:**



## The RAQC Clean Air Fund

The RAQC Clean Air Fund is a 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to funding and supplementing RAQC air quality programs that reduce Ozone within the EPA's Denver Metro/Front Range Ozone Non-Attainment Area.

**Learn more and donate today at [raqc.org/cleanairfund](http://raqc.org/cleanairfund)**



**The lead air quality  
planning organization  
for Colorado's  
Front Range**



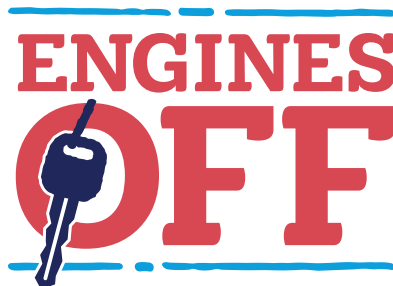
*Simple Steps. Better Air.* is the RAQC's public awareness and outreach program that educates area residents about ground-level ozone pollution and the simple steps they can take to help improve air quality in the Front Range.

Ozone levels peak each year during the summer, often on sunny, blue-sky days. Groups most impacted by ozone and other air pollution issues include children, the elderly, people with respiratory conditions, outdoor workers, and outdoor athletes.

To help your community breathe easier this summer, take some simple steps:

- Carpool and combine car trips
- Take transit to #JustSkip2 car trips each week
- Walk, bike, or scoot for shorter distances
- Don't idle the car when it is parked
- Upgrade to a high MPG vehicle or EV
- Electrify your lawn and garden equipment
- Work from home when possible

Know when it matters most: Text **"BetterAirCO"** to **21000** or visit our website to sign up for text or email ozone alerts. When an Ozone Action Day Alert is issued, we recommend residents avoid outdoor exercise or heavy exertion between 12 p.m. and 8 p.m.



The RAQC's Engines Off programs are designed to reduce vehicle idling, which is when an engine is left to run while a vehicle is parked. The polluting tailpipe emissions created from an idling vehicle not only waste fuel and money, but are a threat to public health and the climate.

### Engines Off at Schools

The RAQC is partnering with schools in the Front Range to educate school communities about the negative health impacts of idling near children during school pick up and drop off.

### Engines Off for Local Governments

The RAQC has compiled resources, including model ordinances, technology, and outreach programs to help local governments tackle vehicle idling by public, commercial and public vehicles.

### Engines Off for Food Trucks

The RAQC is awarding grants to food truck owners to help them replace fossil fuel-powered generators with batteries to reduce noise, air pollution, and overhead expenses from fuel consumption.



The Clean Air Auto Repair (CAAR) program repairs high-emitting vehicles within the Denver metro area. CAAR provides vehicle owners with resources and support to repair or replace their vehicle emission systems, reducing harmful pollutants. By focusing on these vehicles, CAAR aims to improve air quality in affected areas, mitigating health risks associated with poor air conditions and promoting a cleaner, healthier environment for communities.



The Mow Down Pollution program mitigates ground-level ozone and enhances Front Range air quality by incentivizing individuals and organizations to make the switch to electric lawn and garden equipment. This initiative offers vouchers to support individuals, small businesses, and the public sector who opt to recycle their gas-powered equipment and replace it with electric-powered alternatives.