



Ozone Pollution



Good Up High, Bad Nearby

What is Ozone?

Ozone is a gas that occurs both in the Earth's upper **atmosphere** and at ground level. Depending on its location in the atmosphere, ozone can be "good" or "bad" for the environment.

During summer, Spokane's hot **temperatures** and sunny weather makes it ideal for ground-level ozone **pollution** to form. Emissions from industry, automobiles, lawn mowers and other small gasoline powered engines, "bake" in the **summer** sun and form ground-level ozone.

It's important to know the difference between good and bad ozone. Though the **chemical** structure is always the same, where it occurs in the atmosphere can lead to vastly different impacts on the health of humans, plants and animals.

Bad Nearby

Bad ozone, also known as ground-level ozone or **smog**, forms near the Earth's surface, where we live. It makes the air dirty and hard to **breathe**, not only for people but also for plants and animals.

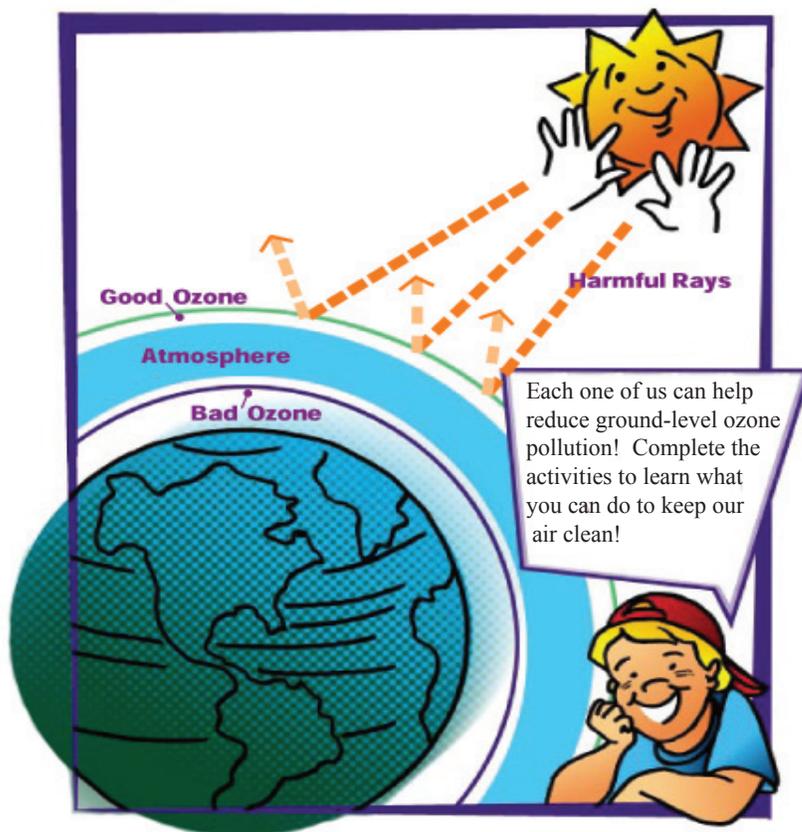
Good Up High

Good ozone forms high above the Earth and protects people from the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation (**UV rays**). The ozone layer wraps all the way around the Earth, about 10 to 30 miles straight up.

Did you know that some pollutants (chlorofluorocarbons or CFCs) that were released into the air from refrigerators, air conditioners and spray cans in the 1970s and 80s are still doing damage to the ozone layer by making holes in it. The holes in the ozone layer allow higher levels of UV radiation to reach the surface of the Earth.

Bad Ozone and Your Health

Breathing ground-level ozone can trigger health problems including chest pain, coughing, throat irritation, and congestion. Several groups of people are sensitive to ozone, especially when they are active out of doors. Exercise causes people to breathe faster and deeper. Affected people are: active children and adults and those with asthma or other **respiratory** diseases.



THE ENVIROKIDS' WEB SITE and EMAIL:

www.SpokaneEnviroKids.org and spokaneenvirokids@gmail.com

Community Calendar

June, July, August...hands-on activities to look, feel and learn!

Wednesday, June 23: Make a Splash! Library Reading Program starts throughout libraries in Spokane County. Check with your local library. Free.

Friday, July 9, 10am-2pm: EnviroKids' Event at Discovery Park, 2426 N. Discovery Pl., Spokane Valley. Free.

Friday, August 2, 5:30-6:30pm: Indians Baseball @ Avista Stadium. Come learn about the environment with hands on activities and then watch a great baseball game. You must purchase game tickets to participate.

Saturday, August 14, 11am-5pm: Kids' Day at Riverfront Park. Visit the EnviroKids' booth to paint your own, reusable lunch sack and earn points. Free.

September 10-19: Spokane Interstate Fair at the Spokane County Fair & Expo Center. Visit the "Go Green" area at the fair to learn what you and your family can do to help protect the Earth. Admission applies.

All About Points and Prizes!

Some of you still have little or no points. To find out your total points, look at your mailing address label on the newsletter. Your total will be right next to your name.

Suzy Que, **25**
1010 Environmental Ave
Spokane, WA, 99201

There are many opportunities to participate in activities, earn points and learn more about the environment. To keep receiving our newsletters, you need to participate in at least one activity during the year. There are many ways to earn points; you can return a newsletter with completed activities, send in pictures of environmental things you've done, or attend an event.

Join in the fun, start earning more points for cool prizes!

- 20 points — Recycled notebook or wildflower seed packet
- 50 points — Recycled yo-yo or recycled piggy bank
- 100 points — Bird feeder or rain gauge
- 150 points — Weather radio (limited supply)
- 200 points — A live raptor presentation to your church, school or other group; or a trip on the Spokane River with the Spokane River Forum!

Here are some tips to help reduce ground-level ozone:

- ☀️ Make sure your parents are taking their vehicles in for scheduled **tune-ups** - it results in better gas mileage and fewer harmful chemicals in the air.
- ☀️ Help your parents organize their list of errands into one trip - it saves money on gas and reduces pollution.
- ☀️ Try to **carpool**, ride the bus, walk, or **bicycle** to where you need to go to reduce the number of cars on the road.
- ☀️ Wait until evening to mow the lawn when the sun isn't as bright and hot. Or switch to electric or manual powered equipment.
- ☀️ Don't let your parents **idle** their car (sit with the engine running). Turn the car off if it's not going anywhere for more than 30 seconds.
- ☀️ Refuel the car after 5 p.m. to help keep gasoline vapors out of the air during the heat of the day when ozone (smog) forms.
- ☀️ Recycle - making new products from old results in less air pollution.

SMEARTHY SAYS...

Check out Discovery Park
on your own for an additional 25 points!

Send picture(s) to the club mailing address or email them
to spokaneenvirokids@gmail.com to receive points.



What Are You Doing?

Tell us with words or drawings three things that you and your family are doing to help keep the air clean.

1.

2.

3.

Matching Sets

Draw a line to a picture that matches the words.

Ride Your Bike



Mow The Lawn on Cooler Days



Ride The Bus



Tune Up Your Car



Refuel After 5 p.m.



Word Scramble

Unscramble these words.

Hint, there are used in this newsletter.

1. LEDI (Hint: leaving a car turned on)

2. CPOALRO (Hint: when you share a ride)

3. AETRMEOHSP (Hint: the air we breathe)

4. TENU PU (Hint: a physical for a car)

5. TEERMUPTEAR (Hint: is it hot or cold)

6. GOSM (Hint: it's not good to breathe)

7. LUPINTOLO (Hint: dirt in the air)

8. LEMACICH (Hint: a substance)

9. ILBCCYE (Hint: a fun activity)

10. ENZOO (Hint: a harmful air pollutant)

11. MUSERM (Hint: one of four seasons)

12. TEHAREB (Hint: we need to do this to live)

13. HLETAH (Hint: in good condition)

14. RPEISRAYROT (Hint: our breathing system)

15. RVAUSY (Hint: comes from the sun)



EnviroKids' Club

EnviroKids' Club
c/o National Weather Service
2601 N. Rambo Rd.
Spokane, WA 99224

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EnviroKids' Club....caring for the Earth

EnviroKids' Club is a way for you to team up with other kids in Spokane County--exploring all aspects of the environment: air, water, weather, garbage & recycling, plants & animals, and even you & your environment.

EnviroKids' Club members will receive an activity in the mail four times a year (in the newsletters). Complete the activity (or activities) placed on the back of this page and return the page to the Club Headquarters (address and form is below). You will earn points towards a special prize. The EnviroKids' Club is for kids grades K-6, who live in Spokane County.

Mail Completed Activities by **JULY 31, 2010** to: EnviroKids' Club, c/o National Weather Service
2601 N. Rambo Rd., Spokane, WA 99224

Fill in this form and send back to us to earn your points! Do you also have a friend or sibling who would like to join the Envirokids' Club? Copy this page for them to send in and be added to our mailing list.

Name: _____ Age: _____ School: _____ Grade: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

My child has permission to participate in EnviroKids' Club activities and to have name/picture used in ads/website.

Parent Signature and Date

EnviroKids' Club Partners:
National Weather Service, Spokane County Conservation District, Spokane County Water Resources, Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency, Spokane Regional Solid Waste System, Spokane River Forum, WA Department of Ecology and West Valley Outdoor Learning Center.

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