



## **Cities and Government Agencies Toolkit**

Cities and local governments have the ability to lead their communities to a more breathable future. Cities, counties, school districts, college districts, water districts and other local and special districts all have a role to take action and inspire action from their constituents and stakeholders

Participating in Clean Air Day provides a unique opportunity to engage key community stakeholders including elected officials, key agency staff, and community and business leaders.

Air pollution affect everyone's quality of life, so communitywide participation is key to raising awareness and improving the air quality. In whatever way you decide to get involved, make sure to register your city or agency at [cleanairday.org](http://cleanairday.org) so we can promote you and your efforts.

As a city or government agency, you can be a leader in Clean Air Day 2018. It's easy, and here are some suggestions to add to your toolkit of community-serving resources.

### **Here's how you can be a part of Clean Air Day:**

#### **A . Make an Announcement & Share Clean Air:**

1. Pass a [resolution](#) of support or declaring Clean Air Day in your jurisdiction.
2. Use social media to promote your participation in Clean Air Day and encourage others do to so
3. Have your Executive and/or elective leadership go "Carfree" on Clean Air Day
4. Create a webpage within your website to share the steps your government organization has taken to reduce air pollution across its jurisdiction
5. Announce and issue a press release/promote on social media the steps that your agency has taken in its commitment to participating in Clean Air Day activities as well as policy changes that have been implemented

6. Leverage Clean Air Day to make announcements in and around October 3 to introduce new laws and regulations to illustrate how they benefit air quality. Examples include:
  - a. New jurisdiction-wide carpool incentives
  - b. Local Ordinances restricting open burning
  - c. No idling zones around schools
  - d. New bike lanes / plans
  - e. New transit-oriented development projects / plans
  - f. Commitments to purchase a higher percentage of energy from renewable sources
  - g. Purchase of zero or near zero emission fleets
7. Giving preferential scoring preference to green certified business

**B. Clean the Air:**

1. Commit to increased maintenance to keep current vehicle fleets well maintained in order to improve efficiency and reduce pollution
2. Replace aging fleet vehicles with new hybrid or electric models
3. Add electric car charging stations throughout the community at publicly owned facilities and locations accessible to the general public if applicable
4. Implement the use of electric blowers or push brooms instead of gasoline powered blowers to maintain outdoor spaces
5. Use electric lawn mowers on government properties instead of gasoline powered lawn mowers
6. Set air conditioners to no lower than 78 degrees
7. Support new developments that promote pedestrian traffic through inclusion of sidewalks, pathways, crosswalks, and bicycle lanes and trails

**C. Engage with residents and stakeholders:**

1. Host a "[Transit Party](#)" or electric vehicle ride and drive.
2. Host a "[Clean Air Fair](#)".
3. Host an environmental fair or summit about Clean Air Day to provide information, booths or workshops to the public
4. Host a roundtable with business leaders and others about Clean Air Day, how they can get involved, and how your jurisdiction can support clean air for all
5. Encourage stakeholders to join with you to take the [pledge](#) in official communications to them leading up to Clean Air Day
6. Host a tree planting in your community
7. Establish no idling zones around schools, parks, and other places children gather

8. Recognize businesses who are actively working to improve air quality through carpool, rideshare, telecommute, and other programs
9. Honor community leaders at your official meeting who are working to clean the air
10. Convert an existing event to include Clean Air Day opportunities
11. Conduct surveys to gauge community interest in specific programs and determine needs assessments

***D. Engage your employees and facilities:***

1. Plant trees on your agency's property
2. Replace office heating and air-conditioning filters and perform maintenance on other office appliances in order to maintain efficiency and healthy operations (mold and particulates removal, etc.). Properly maintained equipment operates at peak efficiency and reduces excessive energy use thereby reducing its carbon footprint and air pollution.
3. Encourage your employees to leave the car at home by:
  - a. Carpooling,
  - b. Telecommuting,
  - c. Riding a bike or walking,
  - d. Taking public transportation
4. Establish a monthly "car-free" day when everyone in the office is encouraged to walk, telecommute, cycle, or take public transit to work
5. Replace your fleet with less polluting [vehicles](#) than you currently use
6. Encourage your fleet drivers to participate by:
  - a. Switching off the engine when stopped (no idling)
  - b. Driving as smoothly as possible avoiding rapid acceleration and braking to allow the for the vehicle's most efficient operation
7. Install automatic light shut offs in offices and buildings
8. Provide subsidized transit passes to your employees