

CLEAN AIR WEEK

Environment Canada / Environnement Canada

Clean Air Day
Be part of it!

June 2, 2004
June 8, 2005
June 7, 2006

Canada

What is Clean Air Day?

Clean Air Day (CAD) was proclaimed by the Government of Canada to increase public awareness and action on two key environmental priorities, clean air and climate change. It is part of Canadian Environment Week, which was created to promote and to celebrate activities that care and nurture our environmental legacy.

Clean air and climate change

Fossil fuels like oil, natural gas, coal, diesel and gasoline are used throughout our society to heat our homes and buildings, to power our factories, to generate electricity, and to fuel our vehicles. When burned, these fuels produce emissions and airborne particles that are harmful to you and the environment. These also contribute to the build-up of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere which have been linked to climate change.

A special case: the transportation sector

Emissions from the transportation sector are a major contributor to air pollution and climate change. In fact, transportation is one of the single largest sources of air pollution in Canada and is also responsible for about 25% of greenhouse gas emissions. In some urban areas it may account for up to two thirds of all smog forming pollutants. Smog is particularly harmful to the health of children, the elderly and those with cardio-respiratory problems.

The transportation sector covers a large number of different transportation modes. **Sustainable transportation** refers to the modes that provide an alternative to fuel-powered, single occupant vehicles. Walking, cycling, inline skating, carpooling, using the public transit system or telecommuting are all forms of sustainable transportation.

www.ec.gc.ca/cleana

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