



Air Quality Status for Central Texas

June 15th, 2010

Resource Management Commission

Deanna Altenhoff, Executive Director
CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas



CLEAN AIR Force Mission

Five Counties, One Goal:
Clean Air for Central Texas



Ground-Level Ozone 101

Hot summer sun "cooks" man-made emissions to create unhealthy ground-level ozone (smog).



+

Volatile Organic
Compounds
VOC
Ex: Exhaust Emissions

+

Nitrogen
Oxides
NO_x
Ex: Fuel Burned from
Motor Vehicles,
Utilities



Ozone



What Are the Air Quality Designations?

- **Attainment** – Area meets the standard and does not contribute to nearby nonattainment areas
- **Nonattainment** – Area does not meet standard or contributes to a nearby area not meeting the standard
- **Unclassifiable** – Area cannot be classified based on available data



Why is Being in Attainment Important?

- Children's Health
 - Spend more time outdoors
 - Breathe more air than adults on a relative basis
- Asthmatics
- Elder Population
- Healthy Adults
 - Construction and other outdoor workers
 - Exercising individuals



Economic Impacts of Nonattainment Status

Nonattainment status means governmental restrictions on our local transportation and businesses:

- Enforced emission equipment and controls will increase costs to employers and consumers
- Restrictions placed on existing business expansions or new business operations
- Loss or delay of Federal transportation funding for transportation needs in our region (roads, congestion reduction, transit, etc.)



What Could a Nonattainment Designation Mean for Our Area?

- Revised State Implementation Plan (SIP)
- New controls for major sources of NOx and VOCs
- Emission offsets for new major sources or major source modification
- Conformity process (General and Transportation)



CLEAN AIR Force Programs

- Ozone Alert Program
- Clean Air Partners Program
- Clean School Bus Program
- Shuttle Pilot Project
- Electric Lawnmower Discount
- High School PSA Contest
- 8-Hour O3 Flex Plan



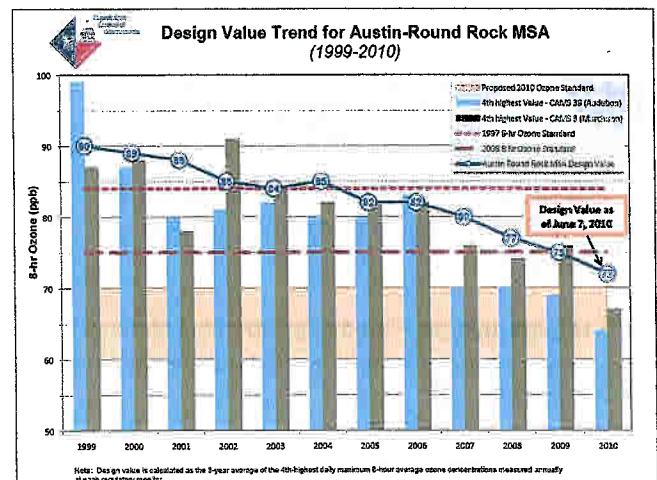
Air Quality Status in Central Texas

- Central Texas has been on the verge of being declared as nonattainment of the Federal air quality ozone standard set by EPA
- Our region has successfully avoided becoming a nonattainment area by being proactive in air quality efforts
- New standards on the horizon...



8-hour Ozone Standard History

- 1997 Standard = 84 ppb
- March 2008 Standard = 75 ppb
- **NEW: January 6, 2010 Proposed Standard = 60-70 ppb (Austin MSA = 75 ppb)**





Timeline for Proposed Ozone Standards

June 15, 2010	TCEQ holds public mtg. on nonattainment area designations
August 31, 2010	EPA announces final standard, 60 Day comment period begins
January 7, 2011	Governor recommends nonattainment designations to EPA
March 11, 2011	EPA proposes designations in Federal Register Notice
July 2011	EPA makes final area designations
August 2011	EPA publishes final designations in Federal Register
August 2012	Nonattainment NSR permit reviews begin by TCEQ/EPA
December 2013	State Implementation Plans due
2014 – 2031	Attainment demonstrations



CAF Ozone Email Alerts

To sign up for free alerts by email, go to www.cleanairforce.org and simply enter your email address.



Classifications for Nonattainment

- Marginal
- Moderate
- Serious
- Severe - 15
- Severe - 17
- Extreme



Ozone Season Summary

No.	Date	8-hr. Reading (ppb)	Monitor
1	May 5, 2010 Warning-Level Orange	75 ppb	Austin Northwest
2	May 28, 2010 Watch – Level Orange	77 ppb	Austin Northwest
3	May 29, 2010 Watch – Level Orange	67 ppb	Austin Northwest

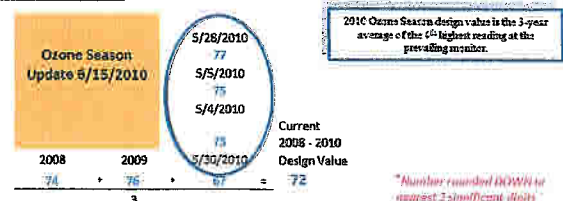


Ozone Season Summary

Actual Ozone Standard Exceedance: A Reading Above 75 ppb

No.	Date	8-hr. Reading (ppb)	Monitor	Ozone Alert
1	May 28, 2010	77 ppb	Austin Northwest	Yes
2				
3				
4				
5				

To Determine the 3-Year Ozone Average for the 3-County Region of Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson:





Main Message for 2010: Drive Less

- Take Public Transit
- Try out the CAF/EDF Employer Pilot Project
- Bike or Walk
- Vanpools & Carpools – River Cities Rideshare
www.rcride.com
- Try teleworking
- Stagger employee work shifts – Avoids peak traffic
- Compressed Work Weeks
- Utilize Carsharing Programs – Austin Carshare



Other Things You Can Do

- Idle less – turn your vehicle off
- Delay mowing or refueling until after 6 pm
- Use electric lawn equipment vs. gas-powered
- Maintain your vehicle
- Stop refueling when the gas pump clicks
- Drive the speed limit
- Promote CAF programs and policies
- Give financial support to CAF efforts



Electricity Use is Also Important

- Reduce electric use in the late morning and early afternoon to lower energy bills and help AQ
- Delay electric use to until the evening
- Renewable energy



www.cleanairforce.org

Deanna Altenhoff
Executive Director
512.225.7776

deanna@cleanairforce.org