



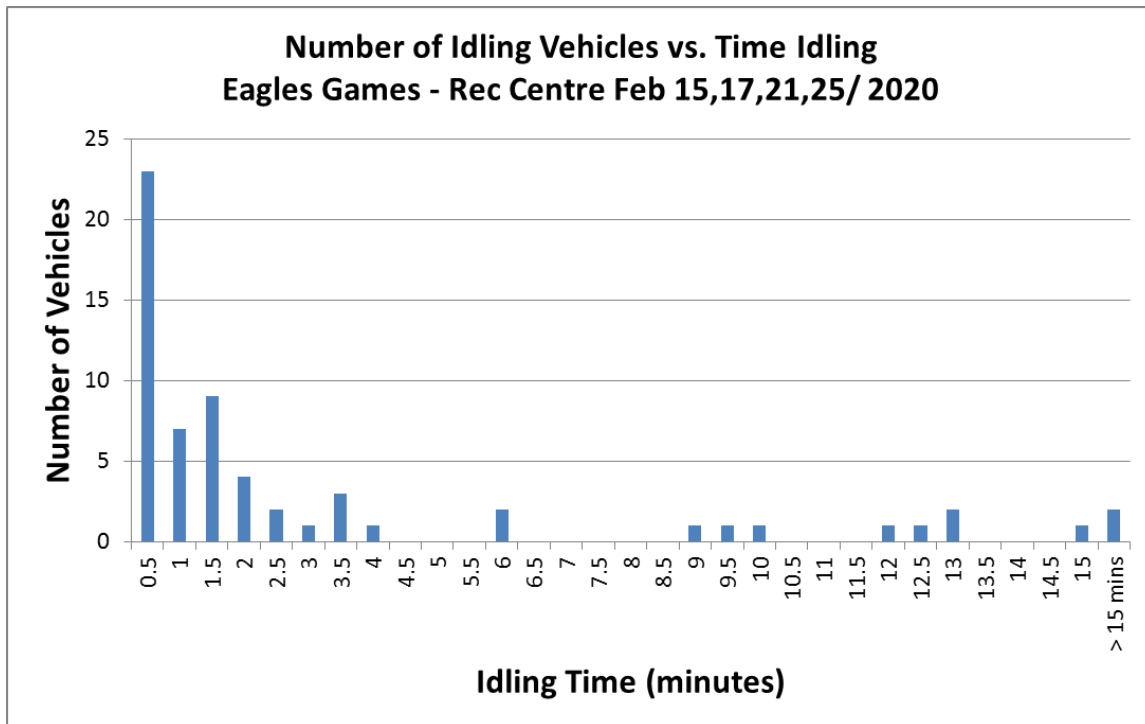
February 27, 2020

Bow Valley Clean Air Society (BVCAS) and Bow Valley Climate Action (BVCA) were happy to collaborate with the Canmore Eagles' campaign to become "the greenest hockey team in the world" by calculating greenhouse gas emissions of vehicles driven by hockey fans to games.

In February 2020, volunteers from BVCA and BVCAS collected vehicle and idling data on 4 successive game nights at the Canmore Recreation Centre. Data were collected only for vehicles arriving for the game, not leaving after the game.

We calculated GHG emissions from cars, trucks, vans and busses that idled for more than 10 seconds. We found that overall, fans parked their cars promptly and walked to the Rec Centre entrance. There were some notable outliers, however, where it seemed that people arrived early for the game and let their vehicles idle while waiting for the game to start. Over the course of four games, the total idle time added up to 3.4 hours. Many people carpooled. Carpooling, taking transit (there's a ROAM bus stop a short walk from the Rec Centre), walking or biking are low carbon ways to get to the game.

BVCAS and BVCA hope to refine the methodology and monitor other areas in Canmore later in the year.



Idling and GHG emissions:

Eliminating unnecessary idling is one easy action Canadians can take to reduce GHG emissions that are contributing to climate change. One study found that idling for over 10 seconds uses more fuel and produces more CO₂ compared to restarting your engine. If Canadian motorists avoided idling for just three minutes every day of the year, CO₂ emissions could be reduced by 1.4 million tonnes annually – equal to saving 630 million litres of fuel and taking 320,000 cars off the road (NRC -2016).

Idling and health:

In addition to CO₂, an idling engine releases as many exhaust fumes as a vehicle in motion. Other vehicle emissions include volatile organic compounds (VOCs), carbon monoxide (CO) and oxides of nitrogen (NOX) that contribute to fine particulate matter and smog. Fine particulate matter smaller than 2.5 micrometers (PM2.5) is directly linked to respiratory health problems because it penetrates deep into the tissue of our lungs and is difficult to expel. These harmful emissions can cause, eye, nose and throat irritation, asthma attacks, reduced lung capacity and lowered resistance to infections.

Bow Valley Climate Action is a citizen’s organization that believes individual as well as collective action on climate can make a difference. We seek to accelerate that action. Our goal is to galvanize citizen engagement in the Bow Valley, promoting civil citizen dialogue that spurs individual and collective action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Bow Valley Clean Air Society – bowcleanair.org - BVCAS is a non-profit Society based in Canmore, Alberta that envisions the Bow Valley region to have the highest air quality free from sources of air emissions negatively affecting people, the environment and the climate. Our Mission is to improve and protect the air quality in the Bow Valley and minimize regional contributions to climate change.