

# Raise your AirQ

Kansas City has struggled with air quality issues for many years. The good news is that ground-level ozone levels overall are decreasing, but we still have a ways to go.



You can help keep it clean: just follow Quinton!

How is this different from the ozone layer? The ozone layer is high above the ground, protecting us from UV rays. Up here, it's good!

**KC** ozone levels  
**DECREASED**  
**12 PERCENT** since 1999  
FROM **91** down to **80**  
parts per billion  
based on 2012 data

Pollutants + Sunlight + Heat = Ozone

nitrogen oxides (NOx)  
volatile organic compounds (VOCs)

Ground-level ozone is also called smog.

People, plants, animals and even buildings can suffer negative impacts on the ground. Down here it's not so good. Lots of everyday things – like driving, mowing, painting or grilling – emit NOx and VOCs. **YOU CAN HELP!** On hot, sunny days, do these activities before 10 a.m. or after 7 p.m.

83% of Kansas City commuters drive to work **ALONE** and are delayed on average **27 HOURS** per year due to **CONGESTION** which costs each commuter an average of **\$584** ANNUALLY

**46** lbs. of NOx and VOCs are emitted per year **PER CAR**

**85** MILLION GALLONS OF GAS could be saved if **10 PERCENT** of commuters **RODE THE BUS**

1 pump = 10 million gallons

**YOU CAN HELP!** For short trips, why not try to:

- carpool
- bus
- bike
- or walk

the average adult breathes **3,000** gallons of air EVERY DAY. That's about **2** gallons every minute. **SO LET'S KEEP IT CLEAN!**

**YOU CAN HELP!** Reduce emissions at home:  
Set the A/C to 78°  
Wash clothes on cold  
Turn off the lights

Paint and lighter fluid fumes emit VOCs.  
Paint on cool days and use a charcoal chimney when grilling.

SOLAR PANEL installations GREW 76% in the US, 2011-12

Each year in our region, **88** million trees REMOVE 11,000 metric tons of pollution.

The Kansas City Region is home to over **28,500** children with asthma, which is aggravated by **POOR AIR QUALITY**

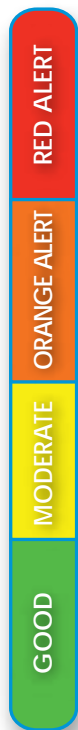


Is today an **OZONE ALERT DAY?**

The **SkyCast** forecasts the next day's air quality.

An **ORANGE** or **RED** ALERT means the ozone levels are unhealthy.

Limit outside activity between 10a & 7p.



For the SkyCast and more, connect with the **MARC Air Quality Program**

[marc.org/AirQ](http://marc.org/AirQ)

[@airqkc](https://twitter.com/airqkc)

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