



Seasons Greetings



The Year in Air Quality...

During the 2011 air quality season, the Triad experienced 8 days where the Air Quality Index (AQI) reached Code Orange – Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups. There were no Code Red – Unhealthy days. Also during 2011, the Environmental Protection Agency attempted to implement a more health protective standard for ozone. Although the proposed standard was based upon scientific data and research, the revision was not mandatory and did not meet the most *current* scientific research. EPA's request for the new standard was denied by the President citing an inconsistent schedule for the proposed revision and the need to include more recent scientific study as well as economic impacts. EPA will revisit the current standard as required beginning in 2013 with a proposal expected in July 2014.

A special thank you is extended to all our Triad air quality partners for your continued efforts to promote improving air quality, better informed transportation and energy choices, and living more sustainably. We continue to see improving air quality across our region and look forward to positive environmental outreach. -Pat Reagan - Monitoring & Mobile Sources Division Manager

Year	Orange	Red
2011	8	0
2010	12	0
2009	1	0
2008	14	2
2007	8	0
2006	6	0
2005	4	0
2004	1	0
2003	6	1
2002	26	5

Continuing to serve you...



Triad Air Awareness is housed at the Forsyth County Office of Environmental Assistance & Protection. The program operates on Federal Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) grant funding, in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Environment & Natural Resources' Division of Air Quality and the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation.

Our mission is to:

"Educate and motivate North Carolinians to improve air quality for the protection and well being of the community, economy and environment."

JOIN US

Become a Triad Air Quality Coalition member. It's free! Contact us at:

[Triad Air Awareness - Program Coordinator](#)

So many ways to get air quality information...

- You can receive air quality reports in your e-mail every day, or only when the air quality is bad, or by going to TriadAir.org and clicking on the Air Quality Index Symbol.
- If you'd rather get a Tweet when pollution levels are high, find us on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/AirAwareness/
- On Facebook you can find air pollution alerts, information, stories, pictures, and answers to your air quality questions at www.Facebook.com/TriadAirAwareness/



Monitoring & Mobile Source Division

- For our partners who might have a web link to our page from theirs, please note the new web address. www.forsyth.cc/EAP/

Need a speaker? An idle reduction sign? Air quality handouts?



We've got:

- Air Quality Activity Books
- Light Switch Stickers
- Idle Reduction Signs
- Other items to help you remember those actions that will keep our air clean and healthy.
- AND....they are free!

We offer information about...

Ground Level Ozone, Recycling, Energy Conservation, Transportation Options, Energy Star Products, Best Driving Practices, Particle Pollution, Open Burning - and the impact these things have on human and environmental health.

We happily offer presentations to your civic group, class, or business, and will gladly participate in fairs and events.

Click the picture to view the Air Quality - Transportation Activity Booklet:



Triad Commute Challenge 2011!

Once again Triad Air Awareness partnered with the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation to host the 5th annual Triad Commute Challenge!

The Challenge is a three month educational campaign, challenging people to try an alternate commute option at least one time instead of driving alone.

This year, 4,675 people pledged to carpool, vanpool, ride the bus, bike, walk or telecommute. This represented 515 employers, colleges and universities, doing their part to Share the Ride and Clean the Air!

Challenge participants reduced emissions by 4,060,000 lbs, with a fuel savings of \$572,369! More specifically, Greenhouse gas (CO2) emissions were reduced by 3,932,000 lbs; emissions for oxides of nitrogen (NOx) were reduced by 611,482 lbs;

Oxides of sulfur (SOx) were reduced by 691 lbs; carbon (CO) emissions were reduced by 104,648 lbs; volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were reduced by 10,361 lbs; and particulates by 301 lbs.

Major VMT Reduction!

The total VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled) Reduction by Challenge participants was an astounding 3.1 million miles.

The Commuter Dash Kick-Off race for the 2012 Triad Commute Challenge will take place in mid-March.

If you would like to participate in the challenge, or be a sponsor, please contact me at ElkinsLT@forsyth.cc or (336) 703-2449.

THANK YOU!!



2011 Challenge Sponsors!!

PLATINUM

Earth Fare
Graphic Visual Solutions
REI
Print Works Bistro
VF Corporation
Viewfinders Media
The Rush
Great Service Automotive
Take Shape For Life
Safe Kids, Guilford County
Omega Sports
Duke Energy

GOLD

SciWorks Science Center
Veolia
North Carolina Zoo

SILVER

Spring Garden Bakery, Krispy Kreme, Poblano's, Off 'N Running, Splurges, Hand & Stone Massage, Village Tavern

New location, new folks, new mission...



We are very excited to inform our air quality family of supporters and partners that the Environmental Affairs Department has not only a new director, but a new name and a new location. We wish our outgoing Director, Bob Fulp the very best as he partakes on the adventure of retirement and a hearty welcome to our new Director, William Minor Barnette (Minor).

We've moved to the Forsyth County Government Center on Chestnut St. in Winston Salem, and our name has been changed to the Office of Environmental Assistance and Protection.



We also welcome the staff who have joined us from Environmental Health (John Stoltz, Scotty Woods, and Aubrie Welch). The Department's mission now includes solid waste as well as air quality.

A new look for:



SHARE the RIDE NC.org

In the next month or so, the Share the Ride NC website will have a new look and a more user friendly interface. Stop by soon to discover how you can Clean the Air, by Sharing the Ride.

Share the Ride NC is a free statewide carpool matching service which will help you quickly and securely find carpool partners anywhere in North Carolina! Using your home and work addresses, you will be matched to nearby commuters with similar schedules. Your home address will never appear on match lists.

When you receive your list of matches, you may choose who to contact. There are no obligations or requirements. It's all up to you! In addition, you may find vanpools, Park-and-Ride lots and more!



If you'd like someone to visit your work place and discuss commuter options with you and your employees, your civic club or group, please call Chantale Wesley at PART (336) 662-0002 to schedule your bus, carpool and vanpool information session. It is important to spread the word so the data base of Share the Ride users continues to grow. **Save Gas - Save Money - Save the Air!**

Useful Links, for a more sustainable lifestyle...

- <http://use-less-stuff.com/> - Helping people to conserve resources and "use less stuff".
- <http://www.peanc.org/> - A nonprofit organization formed to facilitate environmental sustainability in the Piedmont.
- <http://www.ncair.org/> - North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Air Quality: Statewide air quality resources.
- <http://www.ee.enr.state.nc.us/> - North Carolina Office of Environmental Education.
- <http://www.p2pays.org/> - North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance.
- <http://www.airnow.gov/> - United States Environmental Protection Agencies AirNow site. Air quality information and forecasts.
- <http://www.partnc.org/> - Commuter options for the Triad region.
- <http://www.wssrc.org/> - Helping Winston Salem residents and businesses exist more sustainably.
- <http://www.epa.gov/sustainability/index.htm> - US EPA's sustainability information website.
- <http://www.energync.net/> - North Carolina State Energy Office: works to increase the use of renewable energy, alternative fuels and energy efficiency.
- <http://www.ncsc.ncsu.edu/> - Technical assistance & education: renewable energy, industrial efficiency, green buildings, clean transportation, alternative fuels, energy incentives and policy, economic development, ISPQ accredited training programs & professional development.
- <http://www.slowfoodpiedmont.org/> - Focuses on local farmers and food producers who practice sustainable agriculture and advocate for better food in our schools.

What IS Sustainability and why is it important?

Sustainability is based on the principle that everything we need for our survival and well-being depends either directly or indirectly on our natural environment.

Living sustainably means living in such a way as to maintain the conditions under which humans and nature can exist while preserving resources for future generations.

Sustainability is important to making sure that we have and will continue to have, the water, materials, and resources to protect human health and our environment.

