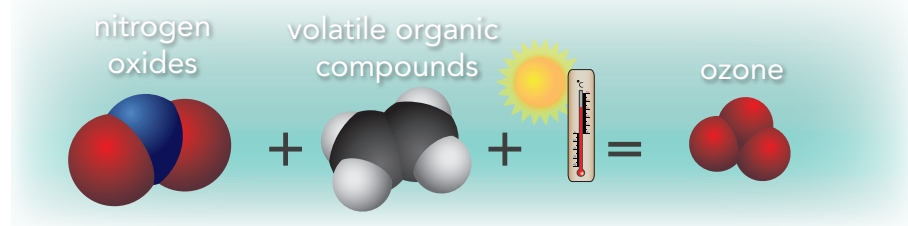


THE GOOD, THE BAD... AND THE OZONE

WHAT IS OZONE?

Ozone is a pungent gas made of three oxygen atoms. Ozone can form in two places: 1) high up in the atmosphere, and 2) right down at the ground. When it's up high in the ozone layer it's "good" ozone. The ozone layer acts like sunscreen lotion for the Earth – blocking out most of the Sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

When it's near the ground it's "bad" ozone. "Ground-level ozone" is formed when **nitrogen oxides** and volatile organic compounds react in the air during hot and sunny days.



GROUND-LEVEL OZONE AND...

YOUR HEALTH

Ozone can be harmful to everyone, especially children, seniors, and people with lung and heart conditions. Specifically it can:

- Cause eye, throat and nose irritation and coughing
- Worsen existing lung and heart diseases
- Reduce life expectancy

Check out Health Canada's Website to learn more.

THE ENVIRONMENT

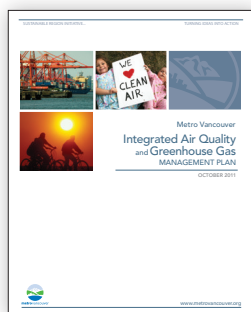
Ozone can affect our environment and our economy by:

- Damaging ecosystems and vegetation
- Stunting tree growth
- Reducing crop yields
- Damaging buildings and materials
- Affecting global climate change

Click here to learn more about ground-level ozone's role in climate change.

WHAT IS METRO VANCOUVER DOING ABOUT GROUND-LEVEL OZONE?

Metro Vancouver is taking action by developing an ozone reduction strategy in partnership with the Fraser Valley Regional District and other agencies. Check out our *Integrated Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Management Plan* to learn about other actions that will address ground-level ozone in our region.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

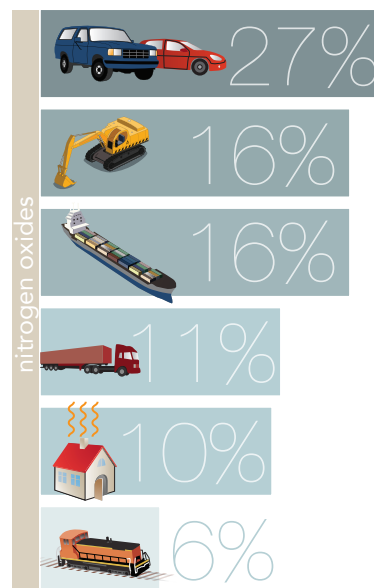
Visit Metro Vancouver's air quality and climate change web pages at www.metrovancouver.org/air for tips!

For more air quality information visit:

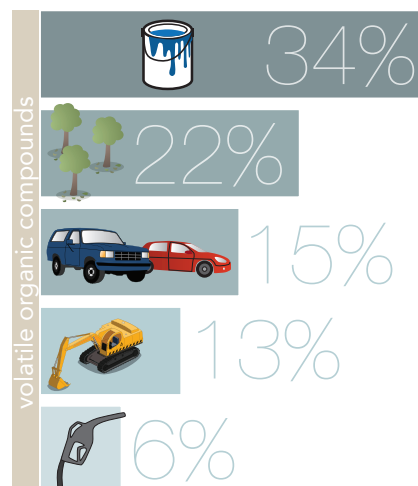
Caring for the Air | BC Air Quality | Environment Canada | US Environmental Protection Agency

WHERE DO THE EMISSIONS THAT FORM GROUND-LEVEL OZONE COME FROM?

The biggest emitters of nitrogen oxides (NOx) in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley Regional District are:



The biggest emitters of volatile organic compounds (VOC) in Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley Regional District are:



Click here for more information about emissions in our region.



metrovancouver

SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR
A LIVABLE REGION