



News Release For Immediate Release

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**Ozone Alert 2009 Season Kicks Off
Tuesday, May 12, 3009
Drillers Stadium Picnic Ground**

Program at 11:45PM



Tuesday, May 12, 3009 at Drillers Stadium Picnic Ground, area business and officials will kick-off the 2009 ozone season. The program will focus on making clean air choices all summer long.

“The Ozone Alert! Program is important to the Tulsa community because ground-level ozone is a health issue” stated Nancy Graham, Air Quality Program Manager for INCOG. “Tulsa has the best voluntary program of its kind in the country. People in our area care about clean air. This season begins with renewed commitment to our ‘calls to action’.

Ozone Alert! Days in the Tulsa area are issued May through September, when forecasts indicate conditions may make for unhealthy levels of ozone. Ground-level ozone is a primary component of smog and creates significant health and respiratory problems; especially for children, senior citizens and people with asthma.

Residents can do more this summer to improve air quality by taking action all summer long in addition to alert day actions. Everyday clean air choices include activities like conserving energy, driving less, and refueling vehicles and using gas-powered lawn equipment in the evening hours. Ozone Alert! Day actions include leaving your car at home, postponing refueling vehicles and mowing the lawn, staying in for lunch and avoiding idling your vehicle at the drive thru. Tulsa Transit will again be offering “50-cent Fridays’ from mid-May to mid-September, thanks in part to a sponsorship by Lafarge.

Now in it’s 19th season, the voluntary Ozone Alert! Program continues to make a difference. “Tulsa’s air has greatly improved over the last decade” said John Selph, Chairman of the INCOG Air Quality Committee. “This improvement is due in large part to the voluntary actions of our community”.

For more information on the Ozone Alert! Program, and to sign up for E-mail Alerts!, go to www.OzoneAlert.com.

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