



Summer is in the Air... and so is Ozone.

Summer months are notorious for poor air quality, more than any other time during the year. Why? Well, it has to do with the summer heat and the forming of ozone.

Ozone can be “good” or “bad” depending on its location in the atmosphere. In the upper atmosphere, “good” ozone is produced naturally and protects us from UV radiation. At ground level, “bad” ozone is a harmful air pollutant. Ground level ozone peaks on hot summer days because of a chemical reaction between nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the presence of sunlight.




Air quality is an important factor in the overall health of our community and we can each do our part by working to reduce ozone at home, on the road and at work.

At Home

- **Increase the temperature of your air conditioner by 2 to 5 degrees.** This can save you 10% in cooling costs and will be more energy efficient.
- **Mow your lawn less often and avoid mowing during hot and sunny conditions.** This reduces the nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions that are put into the air.

Recipe for Ozone

Ingredients:

	Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
	Nitrogen Oxide (NOx)
	Sunlight

Steps:

- Combine first two ingredients by releasing them into the air.
- Heat and cook ingredients using sunlight and high temperatures.

Results:

Ozone

- **Choose cleaning products that are natural or certified “green”** to reduce the VOCs you put into the air.

conditioning less. Leaky air conditioners in cars are the single greatest source of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), a greenhouse gas.

On the Road

- **Refuel cars and trucks after dusk** to reduce the amount of NOx evaporating into the air.
- **Tune-up your car, replace air filters and keep tires properly inflated.** This can decrease your vehicle’s fuel demand.
- **Instead of idling in the fast food drive-thru, park your vehicle and go inside.**
- **Keep your vehicle’s air conditioner in good working order and/or open your windows and use your car’s air**

At Work

- **Take a lunch to work or carpool or walk to get your lunch.**
- **Turn off lights and computers when you leave to reduce energy waste.**
- **Purchase recycled paper or other office supplies.**
- **Purchase goods locally to reduce emissions in transporting materials.**

Don't Forget About Water!

Visit the 4th Annual Watershed Festival to learn how you can protect another precious natural resource—WATER! The Scott County Health Department and the Wapsi River Center will be joining area environmental organizations in a tribute to water. **The 4th Annual Watershed Festival on Saturday July 14th from 8am to 1pm at the Davenport Freight House Farmer’s Market.** This free, family friendly event offers many new ways for the community to experience water, its value and how to protect water. Many of the tips to reduce ozone in our air will also have a positive impact on the water cycle.



**SCOTT COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Scott County Administrative Center, 4th Floor

600 West 4th Street

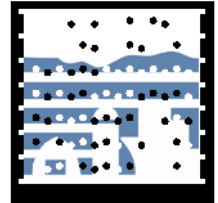
Davenport, Iowa 52801-1030

Phone: 563-326-8618

Fax: 563-326-8774

E-mail: health@scottcountyiowa.com

Web site: www.scottcountyiowa.com/health



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- There will be no meeting of the Scott County Board of Health in July.

OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department is committed to promoting, protecting and preserving the health of the community by providing leadership and direction as advocates for the individual, the family, the community and the environment we serve.

OUR VISION:

As recognized and respected leaders in serving and protecting our citizens, we at the Scott County Health Department are committed to a safer, healthier community and environment. In so doing, we provide a multitude of services with Professionalism, Responsiveness, Involvement, Dedication, and Excellence.



If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please subscribe to the Public Health Connection at www.scottcountyiowa.com/health/connection or e-mail health@scottcountyiowa.com or call 563-326-8618.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.