



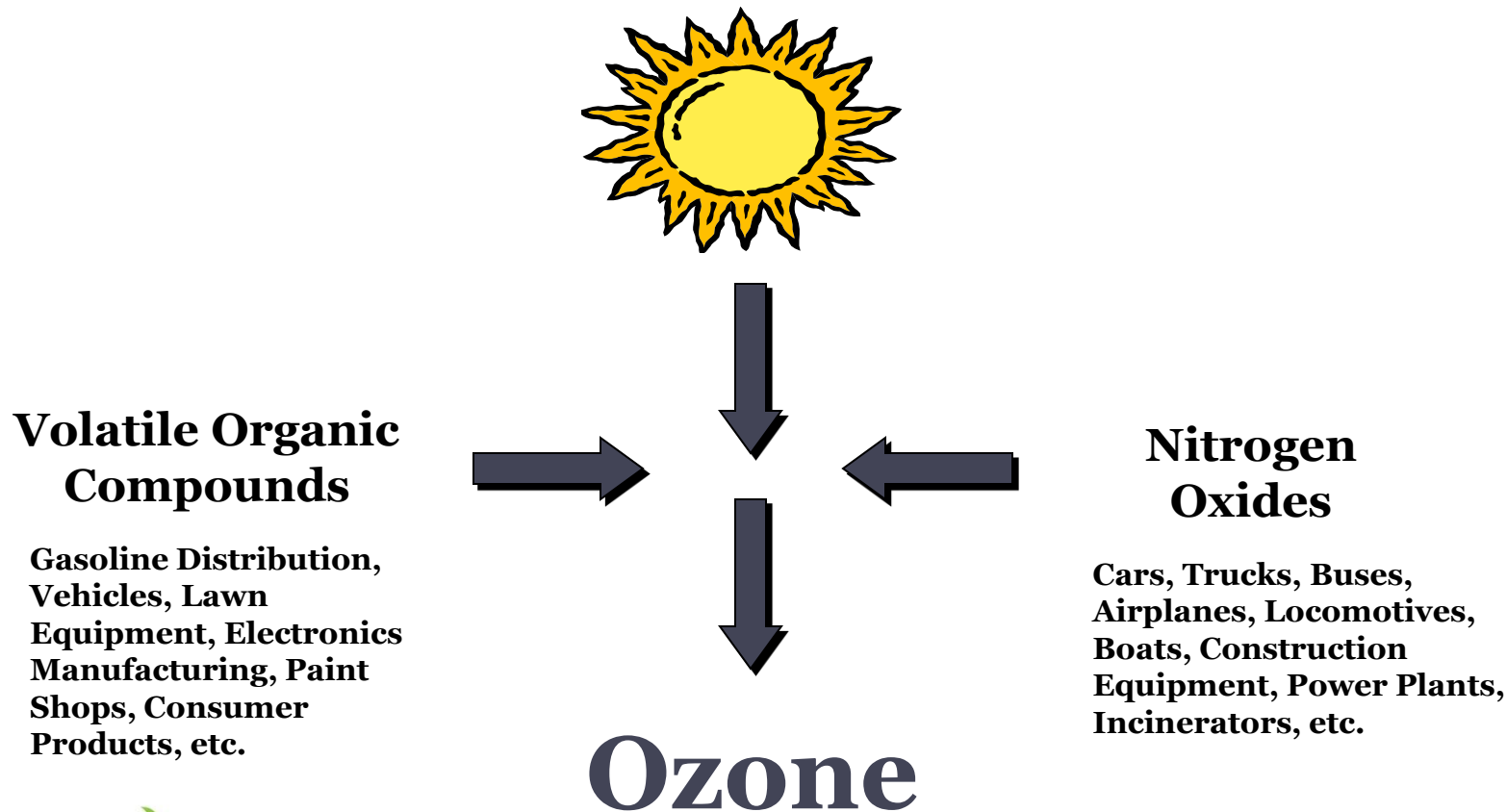
# Vehicle Inspection & Maintenance (I&M) Program

For Travis and Williamson Counties

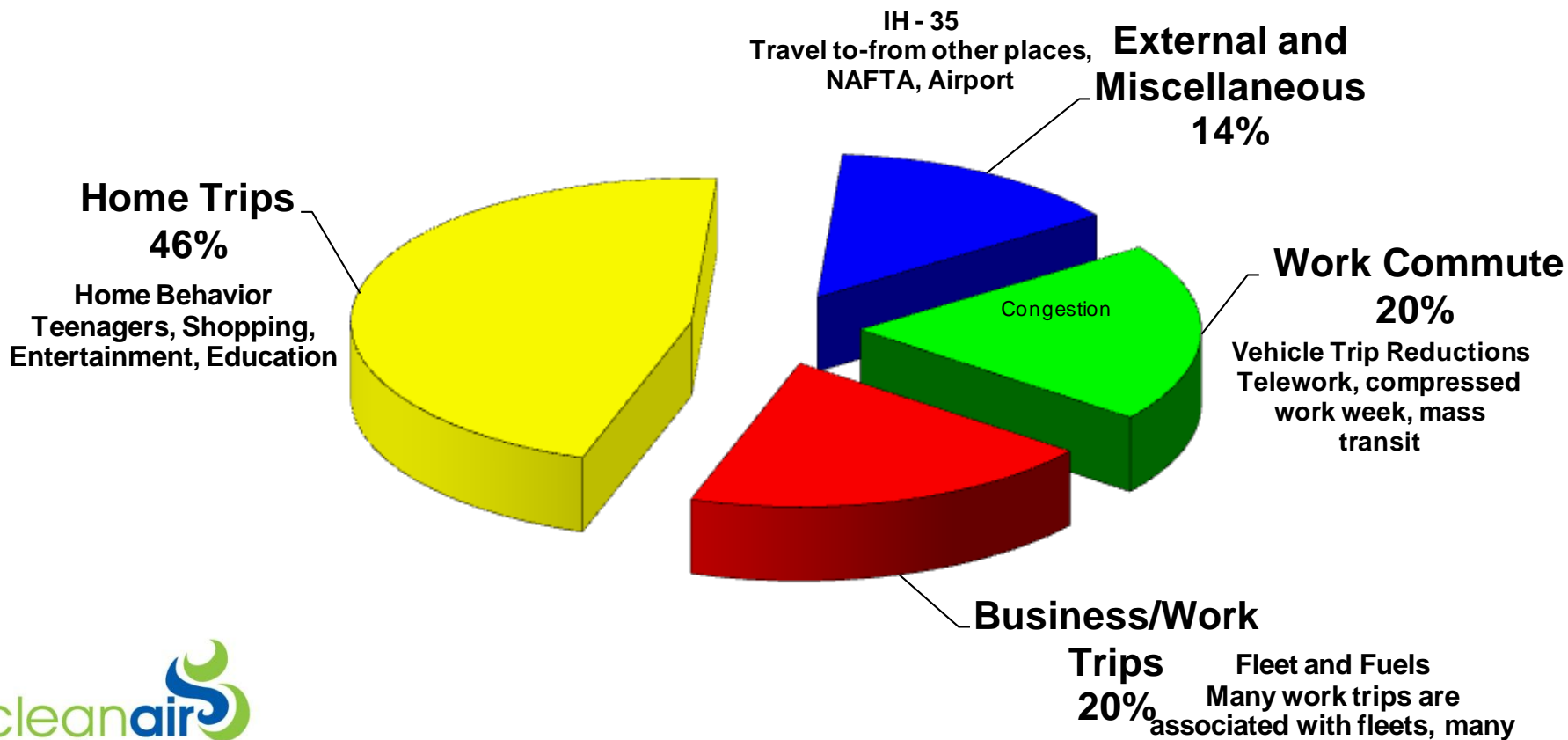


# The Problem:

Hot, summer sun and emissions create harmful ground level ozone.



# Local Commute Trip Distribution



# Ozone Formation

- Ozone is a secondary pollutant
  - Not emitted directly into atmosphere
  - Forms via a complex photochemical process
- Complex chemical reaction between
  - NO<sub>x</sub> - Nitrogen Oxides (NO, NO<sub>2</sub>)
  - VOCs - Volatile Organic Compounds
- Photochemical reaction
  - Requires UV energy from sunlight

# I&M Program - What is It?

- Vehicle emissions testing program
- Identifies excess vehicle emissions
- Requires vehicle repair for high-emitters
- Discourages tampering with emission control devices
- Encourages regular vehicle maintenance

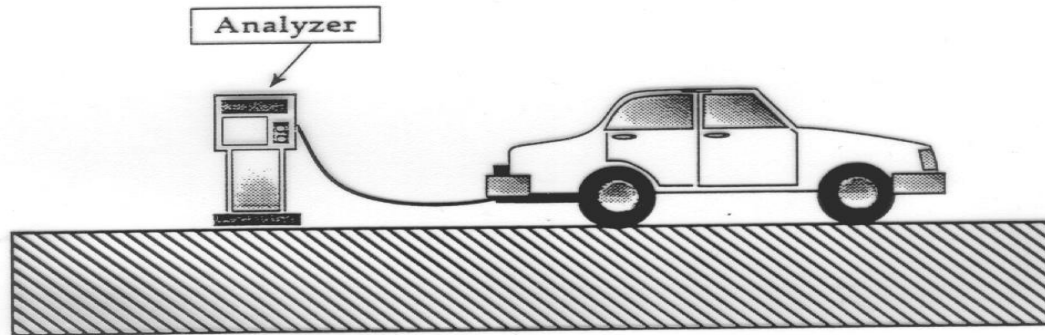


# Emissions Testing Methods for Travis and Williamson Counties

- Two Speed Idle (TSI)
- On-Board Diagnostics (OBD-II)

# Emissions Testing Methods

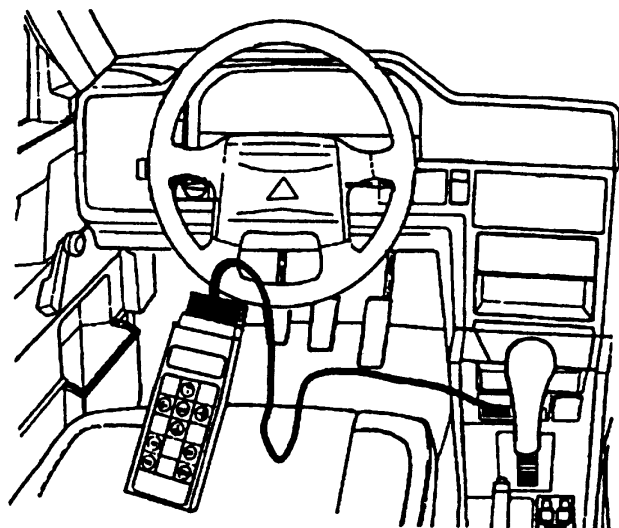
## Two-Speed Idle Test



- Definition:** A measurement of the tailpipe exhaust emissions of a vehicle while the vehicle idles, first at a lower speed, and then again at a higher speed.
- Equipment:** Analyzer system, Fuel Cap Tester
- Available Tests:** Two Speed Idle Emissions test - High Speed Phase (2500 RPM)  
Low Speed Phase (850 RPM)
- Measurements:** Hydrocarbons (HC), Carbon Monoxide (CO), Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), Oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>)
- Cost:** \$13,000 to \$20,000

# Emissions Testing Methods

## On-Board Diagnostics Test (OBD=II)



Equipment:  
(Tamper Resistant)

Computer, monitor, keyboard & printer  
• OBD Scan Tool • Fuel Cap Tester  
• 2-D Bar Code Scan Tool

Measurements:

Vehicle emissions control equipment  
Fuel metering and ignition system

Vehicles Tested:

Model Year 1996 and newer vehicles

Price (new):

Estimated: \$8,000



# AirCheckTexas

- The Federal Clean Air Act requires a Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance program in Ozone and Carbon Monoxide (CO) nonattainment areas.
- The Texas State I&M statutes requires:
  - I&M testing for gasoline-fueled vehicles 2 to 24 years old
  - Test fee funds State I/M program (via TCEQ and TXDPS)
  - Remote sensing to identify gross polluting vehicles



# AirCheckTexas

- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) designs, develops, and evaluates the I&M program, equipment specifications, Vehicle Information Database (VID), and re-registration denial.
- Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) implements the program through DPS safety inspection stations, public outreach, and enforcement.



# AirCheckTexas

- Implemented in 17 Texas counties from the DFW, Houston , El Paso and Central Texas ( Travis and Williamson) regions
- Part of the annual state safety inspection administered by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Motorists must successfully pass emissions and safety inspection to obtain safety sticker
- Tests gasoline vehicles 2 to 24 years old annually, beginning with the vehicle's second anniversary
- Denial of re-registration for vehicles not complying with I/M program requirements



# Repair is Key!

- Repairs are now documented and not taken for granted.
- It is important to be as aggressive about repair information as inspection information.
- We can now review inspection data with our local emission levels to find out more about how I&M affects and improves our air quality!



# I&M Test Fee

Emissions Test Fee is set by TCEQ, as required by State Statute

- Emission Test Fee  $\leq$  \$16.50
- Safety Inspection Fee \$12.50
- **Total Fee**  $\leq$  **\$28.50**

\$6 from every OBD test funds LIRAP (see next slide)

# LIRAP

## Low Income Repair Assistance, Retrofit and Accelerated Vehicle Retirement Program

- Repair and retrofit assistance provided up to \$600
  - Vehicle owner responsible for first \$30
  - Only emissions-related repairs or retrofits are covered
  - Repairs/retrofits must be done at a DPS-recognized emissions repair facility
  - Includes diagnostic work
  - Vehicle must pass the post-repair safety inspection
- Vehicle replacement assistance from \$600 to \$1,000
  - Vehicle must be destroyed, dismantled, or where possible, repaired and used as a replacement vehicle
  - Vehicle must have passed a safety or safety and emissions test in the previous 15 months



# For more information:



Texas Department of Public Safety

[www.txdps.state.tx.us](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us)

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

[www.tceq.state.tx.us](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us)

[www.AirCheckTexas.com](http://www.AirCheckTexas.com)

