
CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas

2017 Annual Report



Five Counties, One Goal; Clean Air for Central Texas

Who We Are

Founded in 1993, the CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas is the leading nonprofit organization dedicated to safeguarding and improving air quality in Central Texas. The CLEAN AIR Force Board of Directors consists of 13 members united in the common goal of finding workable solutions for improving our region's air quality. The CLEAN AIR Force takes a multi-faceted approach to safeguarding the air in Central Texas. Our focus includes public education and outreach as well as serving as a resource and advising body for local entities. The CLEAN AIR Force also oversees programs that serve the public and increase awareness of air quality issues in the Central Texas region.

Our Mission

The mission of the CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas is to (1) be a liaison among all stakeholders, (2) coordinate the air quality planning of the private sector, (3) provide a forum for public discussion, (4) educate the public on air quality issues, and (5) manage air quality improvement programs in Central Texas focused on motivating the citizens, businesses and governments of this region to take actions to reduce air pollution to protect public health and the health of our economy.

Our Vision

The CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas is a collaborative resource advocating for clean air in Central Texas. We look to inform, educate and promote proactive air pollution reducing activities in Central Texas. In our future endeavors, we look to maintain healthy air quality standards, as well as make strides to further air quality awareness and action. We look to continue to be a leader in air quality planning and programs and promote the idea that "every effort counts" when it comes to keeping our air breathable in Central Texas.

Table of Contents

Letter from the Officers.....	4
Board of Directors.....	5
What We Do.....	6
Status of Air Quality in Central Texas.....	7
2017 Highlights.....	8
Clean Air Partners Program.....	10
Ozone Alert Program.....	12
Ozone Advance Program.....	13
Financial Statement.....	14
Looking Ahead.....	15

Letter from the Officers

We are pleased to share with you the CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas' 2017 annual report. This year marked our 24th anniversary, collaborating with other stakeholders on air quality improvement efforts and other initiatives furthering the CLEAN AIR Force's mission.

In 2015 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed a lower Federal ozone standard of 70 parts per billion (ppb) in response to a number of scientific studies that showed that ground-level ozone is dangerous to human health at levels markedly lower than the pre-existing standard of 75 ppb. We ended the 2017 Ozone Season with a design value of 69 ppb, which means we just met the 2015 Federal ozone standard, and more importantly, we helped to protect the health of our children, older populations and those with chronic lung disease.

The CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas is the only non-partisan public/private partnership in the region where local officials work collaboratively with governments, business, health, environmental and civic leaders to implement voluntary measures to improve air quality. This is what makes our organization so unique and effective. Along with local businesses, local governments have pooled their funds to coordinate their educational efforts and voluntary air quality programs through the CLEAN AIR Force. This effort allows everyone to leverage their air quality funds while minimizing costs for taxpayers. A Board of Directors that includes elected officials, business executives, and environmental and civic leaders oversees the partnership.

Our educational efforts include both paid and earned media efforts. We continued to expand our Ozone Alert Program and participated in public outreach events including an Air Quality Awareness Week Kick-Off Breakfast with the City of Austin.

In addition to educational programs, the CLEAN AIR Force is involved in several direct ozone reduction programs, including our Clean Air Partners Program. With funding from businesses, private donors and local governments, we continued to expand the CLEAN AIR Force's programs to reduce harmful emissions in our region.

To continue our success in making needed air quality improvements we need to do even more and we need your help. If Central Texas does not continue to lower our ozone emissions, our region could be designated as nonattainment in the future and this would negatively affect both public health and the health of our economy. Please read this report and look for ways that you, your community, or your business can help. We welcome more members of to the Clean Air Partners Program, as well as donors and volunteers. If you have air quality ideas or want to join us in our air quality improvement efforts, please contact us at info@cleanairforce.org.

Board of Directors



Chair of the Board- Dr. Elena Craft, Senior Health Scientist – Environmental Defense Fund*

Vice Chair- Secretary/Treasurer- Rick Perkins, President – Chemical Logic, Inc.*

Mike Heiligenstein, Executive Director – CTRMA*

Tim Jones, Manager, Environmental Policy & Regulatory Affairs – Samsung Austin Semiconductor*

Rick Whitley, Attorney - Rogers and Whitley, L.L.P.*

Alison Alter, Council Member – City of Austin

Brian Drummond, Environmental Engineer – Tokyo Electron

Bill Oswald, Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs - Koch Companies Public Sector, LLC

Betty Voights, Executive Director - Capital Area Council of Governments

Zoe Trieff, Project Manager – Zephyr Environmental

Senator Kirk Watson - Texas State Senate

TxDOT Austin District

Williamson County Commissioners Court

*Member, Executive Committee

What We Do

The CLEAN AIR Force takes a multi-faceted approach to safeguarding the air in Central Texas. Our focus includes education and outreach as well as serving as a resource and advisor for local entities. The CLEAN AIR Force manages programs that serve the public and increase awareness of air quality issues in the Central Texas area. The following is a brief overview of our many roles:

- **Inform** Central Texans via email, Facebook, Twitter, radio, newspaper and television when Ozone Season begins and of days when our region's air quality is likely to reach harmful levels
- **Educate** the public on air quality issues and new regulations in Central Texas, as well as ways citizens can help reduce harmful emissions to protect themselves and their families
- **Provide** businesses and citizens the opportunity to stay abreast of the latest air quality developments
- **Research** emerging air quality issues in the region
- **Facilitate and Participate** in regional collaborative problem-solving with other agencies, elected officials, university scientists, industry leaders, administration officials and the public
- **Provide** a public forum for the exchange of information and ideas on air quality issues
- **Present** information on health and economic impacts of air pollution to schools, governments, civic organizations and businesses.

Status of Air Quality in Central Texas

In October 2015, EPA strengthened the ozone standard from 75 ppb (set in 2008) to 70 ppb to protect public health and welfare. For the period 2015-2017, our region's design value was 69 ppb for ground-level ozone. The design value is calculated as the three-year average of the fourth highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration measured at the prevailing regulatory ozone monitor. In order to meet the 8-hour ozone standard, by the end of the 2017 Ozone Season our design value had to be 70 ppb or less.

On November 6th EPA promulgated an initial round of area designations for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). All of Central Texas was designated as attainment/unclassifiable. The Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area has been considered a near-nonattainment area for many years and now, more than ever, the region must continue its voluntary efforts.

Given the fact that mobile sources (cars and trucks) are the largest combined contributor of Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x) and Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emissions that form ground-level ozone in our region, our focus will expand from localized solutions to regional transportation programs, designed to alleviate traffic and congestion from our metropolitan area.

Consequences of a Nonattainment Designation

If our area were to violate the ozone standard and be designated nonattainment by EPA, a new State Implementation Plan (SIP) containing more restrictive limits on local sources of emissions would need to be developed. Costs would increase to citizens and businesses to comply with new emission reduction measures. Regulatory consequences of a nonattainment designation could last up to 40 years. Central Texas must continue to lower our emissions of air pollution, or we could be subject to sanctions, such as loss or delay of Federal highway funds. Attractiveness to our area for recruitment of new businesses would diminish, and more importantly, air quality in excess of Federal standards is unhealthy to breathe, as the standard is set to protect human health and vegetation.



CLEAN AIR Force 2017 Highlights

- The CLEAN AIR Force notified the public of three Ozone Action Days. The first for May 6th, the second for September 13th, and the third for October 1st
- Ozone Season was extended to include the month of March
- On November 6th EPA promulgated an initial round of area designations for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS and all of Central Texas was designated attainment/unclassifiable
- Worked with Travis County and the City of Austin to seek funding for a regional air quality smartphone app
- Clean Air Partners were recognized in the Austin American-Statesman on September 27th and again in Austin Energy's December PowerPlus newsletter
- In partnership with the City of Austin, CLEAN AIR Force hosted a kick-off breakfast for Air Quality Awareness Week on May 1st at Green Pastures



- Added a language interpretation feature to the CLEAN AIR Force website
- The Clean Air Partners Program welcomed back AISD as a member
- New Officers were elected for the 2018-2019 term. Dr. Elena Craft will serve as Board Chair, Brian Drummond will serve as Vice Chair and Rick Perkins will continue serving as Treasurer
- ACC completed their solar panel installation at the Highland campus with grant funding from CAPCOG through the Clean Air Partners Program



Clean Air Partners Program

The Clean Air Partners Program consists of 30 Central Texas businesses, organizations and government entities, representing over 115,000 regional employees. These Partners pledge to voluntarily reduce their ozone-forming emissions by at least 10% over a three-year period. The current program goal is to reduce air pollution in an amount equivalent to removing 11,500 commuters from our Central Texas roads. Partners are able to utilize a number of strategies to achieve these reductions such as: car/vanpooling; teleworking/telecommuting; flextime schedules; energy conservation; on-site emission reductions from the use of Green Choice energy; low-emission construction activities; cleaner, water-conserving landscaping practices; and a number of other proactive measures and practices that contribute to cleaner air. Partners report their achievements once a year via a user-friendly website.

On September 27th a half-page full color ad ran in the Austin American-Statesman thanking Partners for their efforts. In addition, this year we ran an ad in the December issue of Austin Energy's PowerPlus newsletter. A special thank you to the City of Austin for providing this opportunity.

Effectiveness

Partners report their emission reductions data for the previous year, and for the 2016 reporting period, overall total emissions per employee went down 2%. NOx was reduced by 17% and VOC increased by 2%.

For more information on the Clean Air Partners Program, please visit the website at www.cleanairpartnerstx.org.

Here are the CLEAN AIR Force's Clean Air Partners

The Clean Air Partners Program is a group of local businesses, governments, nonprofits and their employees working to find innovative solutions to keep our community livable, healthy and prosperous. For more information on the program and how to join, visit cleanairpartnerstx.org.

Please join the CLEAN AIR Force in thanking these Clean Air Partners for improving our air quality:

CORPORATE PARTNERS

- 3M
- Applied Materials
- Chemical Logic, Inc.
- Emerson Automation Solutions
- HNTB Corporation
- ICU Medical
- Metropia
- NXP
- Oracle
- R&R Limousine and Bus
- Samsung Austin Semiconductor
- Spectrum
- St. David's Healthcare
- Tokyo Electron
- Zephyr Environmental Corp.

PUBLIC & NONPROFIT PARTNERS

- Austin Community College
- Austin Independent School District
- Capital Area Council of Governments
- Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority
- City of Austin
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Lone Star Clean Fuels Alliance
- Lower Colorado River Authority
- Seton Healthcare Family
- TxDOT
- TxDOT – Austin District
- Travis County
- University of Texas at Austin
- Williamson County



Corporate Partners

- 3M
- Applied Materials
- Chemical Logic, Inc.
- Emerson Automation Solutions
- HNTB Corporation
- ICU Medical
- Metropia
- NXP
- Oracle
- R&R Limousine and Bus
- Samsung Austin Semiconductor
- Spectrum
- St. David's Healthcare
- Tokyo Electron
- Zephyr Environmental Corp.

Public & Nonprofit Partners

- Austin Community College
- Austin Independent School District
- Capital Area Council of Governments
- Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority
- City of Austin
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Lone Star Clean Fuels Alliance
- Lower Colorado River Authority
- Seton Healthcare Family
- TxDOT
- TxDOT – Austin District
- Travis County
- University of Texas at Austin
- Williamson County

Ozone Alert Program

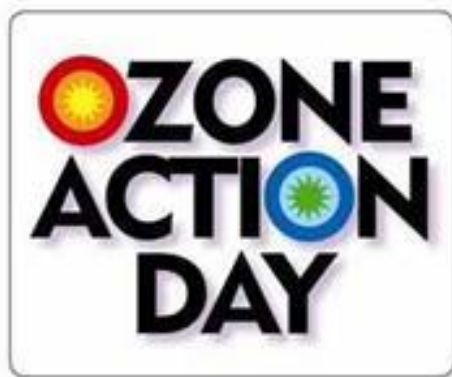
Throughout Ozone Season (March 1st - October 31st), the CLEAN AIR Force offers a free email notification service to participants notifying them of an Ozone Action Day, days when ozone is expected to reach a level unhealthy for sensitive groups. This gives Central Texans time to plan and make informed decisions regarding air pollution and its potential health effects. The CLEAN AIR Force works with local media and meteorologists to communicate the message to their viewers/listeners/readers. We also reach governments and large companies, which distribute the message to their employees via company emails, websites and signage. Ozone alerts are also available on our hotline number and communicated to our Facebook fans and Twitter followers.

In addition to relaying information on the health impacts of exposure to ozone, the CLEAN AIR Force Ozone Alert Program includes simple suggestions for reducing air polluting emissions that everyone can relate to and do, such as limiting driving, riding the bus, avoiding idling, postponing both refueling and mowing until later in the day, and tuning up their vehicles.

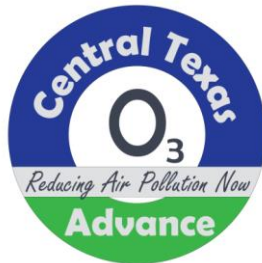
To register for ozone alerts, citizens can sign up on the CLEAN AIR Force website (www.cleanairforce.org). Ozone alert notifications are available on the CLEAN AIR Force's air quality information line at 512.343.SMOG (7664) which also provides information on how to report a heavy-duty idling vehicle. The program's informational phone line is especially valuable to citizens that do not have internet access or choose not to give out their email address. Ozone Season summaries are given at CLEAN AIR Force meetings during Ozone Season.

Effectiveness

The CLEAN AIR Force Ozone Alert Program delivers an email message to thousands of Central Texans (many of those are contact points for other distribution lists) and keeps the CLEAN AIR Force visible in the community. This alert notification system is effective and continues to expand each year.



Ozone Advance Program



In 2014, Central Texas adopted the Ozone Advance Program Action Plan to guide regional efforts and keep us committed to programs implemented in the Early Action Compact (EAC). EPA's Ozone Advance Program promotes local actions in attainment areas to reduce ozone and help these areas maintain their attainment status. The program encourages and supports proactive steps to keep their air clean. The current plan will expire at the end of 2018.

In June, the region submitted the annual air quality report under this plan for the 2016 calendar year. The annual regional air quality progress report submitted to and accepted by TCEQ and EPA indicated that the Central Texas region had successfully maintained progress toward the continuation and implementation of emission reduction measures and had met all milestones to date.

2017 Financial Statement

CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Income	\$81,508
TOTAL INCOME	\$81,508
Expenses	\$80,098
TOATL EXPENSES	\$80,098

Looking Ahead to 2018

- Recruitment of new members for the Board of Directors
- Continued recruitment of Partners and implementation of successful emission reduction measures through our Clean Air Partners Program
- An update to the Clean Air Partners online reporting tool
- Continued work with Travis County and the City of Austin to create the region's first air quality smartphone app
- Working with the City of Austin for a Lunch + Learn for media and meteorologists
- Planning and public education on measures to reduce ozone-forming emissions
- Updates to the Ozone Advance Program Action Plan which will expire at the end of 2018
- Partnering with CTRMA and Capital Metro to create an employer vanpool incentive program for Clean Air Partners
- Looking for new grant opportunities to expand our efforts
- Our 25th anniversary

