



**Special points of interest:**

- Your Suggestion Could be Worth \$1,000
- Charter Employees
- Rants and Raves
- Speed Up with eReview
- Alternative Asbestos Control Method

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# Region 6 Employee News Journal

## Front Lines Message from the Regional Administrator

### Working Together to Clear the Air

With summertime temperatures starting to soar, it seems like every new day brings another ozone action alert for the Metroplex. More than at any other time of the year, the summer months are when all of us working together can help make a big improvement in DFW's air quality, just by making a few conscientious choices about how we live.

Ozone pollution is a problem caused by many sources, and efforts to improve DFW air quality are addressing the problem on every front. From a regulatory perspective, industries are being challenged to find and implement innovative controls to reduce their emissions. However, even if every industry in our area were to shut down its operations completely, DFW would still not meet air quality standards. Cars and trucks account for over 47% of the city's air quality problem. Ultimately, bringing DFW air quality into compliance with ozone requirements will take individual action and a willingness to recognize the ways we can make a difference.



The Regional Administrator discusses the Blue Skyways Collaborative to improve air quality

Here in the Regional Office, we continue to offer free DART passes and a vanpool subsidy program to encourage employees' use of mass transit and ride sharing for their work commutes. We recently received final approval of our Region 6 Environmental Management System, a plan to reduce the environmental impacts of our operation that was developed under the leadership of our multidivisional team. To help reduce our impact on air pollution, the team set a goal to reduce our total contribution by 10%. Simply put, we will reach that goal if employees who now drive to work find two days per month when they will take advantage of mass transit opportunities, including car-pools. It's the right thing to do for the environment, and it makes financial sense too.

And while you're adopting more environmentally-friendly commuter habits, you might consider some other easy ways to help us all breathe easier this summer. Here are some ideas to think about: combine errands into one trip; avoid idling in long drive-through lines; replace your car's air filter and oil regularly; check your tire pressure; fill your gas tank during cooler evening hours; and, don't top off the tank.

Working together, we can all help clear the air.