



Not only is walking and biking to school good exercise, but it can also contribute to keeping the air that we breathe clean. Although cars are great for dropping off and picking up students when the weather is bad, they can unfortunately contribute to worsened air quality through the emission of air pollutants that can harm our health!

Environmental chemistry students at the University of Toronto decided to investigate if cars contribute to poor air quality by measuring concentrations of pollutants in the air and from vehicle traffic. They found that, during morning drop-off times at Secord Public School, carbon dioxide and particulate matter concentrations were **elevated**. They also found that areas of high vehicle traffic were associated with **high concentrations of metals** in road dust.

From this investigation, they recommend that you walk, bike, or take public transit to school to help lower harmful emissions.

Clean air is healthy for our bodies and for our minds! :)

