

[Letter to the Bakersfield Californian, Wed., Jan. 9, 2013:](#)

Those polluting pickup trucks

Some factors that contribute to Bakersfield's disgusting air quality aren't our fault, e.g., our geography and ag industry. But one pollution factor that particularly annoys me is Bakersfield's obsession with pickup trucks.

I understand why a select group of workers such as welders, farmers and oil workers require a pickup. People that haul dirt bikes or trailers also need them for their towing capacity. But why must average citizens that have absolutely no use for them feel the need to drive gas-guzzling and polluting pickups everywhere they go? I suspect these people drive pickups around town because they like their looks and feel like a good ol' boy. Please, don't drive a pickup unless you have a practical use for it.

Matthew M. Miller, Bakersfield