

# Clearing the Air

## The Inversion Layer

WARM INVERSION LAYER HOLDS POLLUTION DOWN

Pollutants become trapped in the layer of cold air

**DOMESTIC HEATING 87%**  
OF WINTER AIR POLLUTION

**OUTDOOR BURNING 5%**  
OF WINTER AIR POLLUTION

**VEHICLE EMISSIONS 4%**  
OF WINTER AIR POLLUTION

**INDUSTRY 3%**  
OF WINTER AIR POLLUTION

**1%**  
MADE UP OF SMALL  
COMBINATIONS OF OTHER NATURAL  
AND MAN-MADE POLLUTANTS

Frost can form under these conditions

Air close to the ground continues to cool through the night. The warm air above acts like a blanket, trapping the cold air.

People heat their homes when the weather is cold. Inefficient fires contribute to pollution.