



WASHINGTON STATE
AUTO DEALERS
ASSOCIATION



Green Driving Tips

Washington new car and truck dealers share the goal of a more “green” world.

Smart – and safe - driving can improve fuel economy by up to 33%.

Here are some tips to save money at the pump and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Keep Rolling in Traffic. It can take 20 percent more fuel to accelerate from a full stop than from 5 miles per hour. Look ahead down the road to anticipate stops and coast as much as possible.

Avoid Unnecessary Idling. In addition to contributing to engine wear and air pollution, when a vehicle is idling, you’re getting zero miles per gallon of gasoline.

Avoid Rapid Starts and Stops. Ease into accelerations and brake smoothly, especially around corners. You’ll maximize your mileage and save dollars at the pump.

Drive Your Vehicle to Warm It Up. Today’s automobiles do not need a warm-up period before driving. Even on the coldest morning, running your engine for 30 seconds is all you need before your vehicle is ready to drive.

Maintain an Optimum Highway Speed for Good Mileage. Highway driving that exceeds 60 miles per hour uses more fuel. Every 5 miles over the 60 mile per hour level is like paying 20 extra cents per gallon of gas.

Use Cruise Control. During highway driving on flat terrains, cruise control helps maintain a steady speed and can provide a 7% average fuel savings, compared to driving without it.

Use Air Conditioning at Higher Speeds. Air conditioning can reduce mileage significantly but driving with the windows open can produce aerodynamic drag and reduce fuel economy. When driving at speeds less than 40 miles per hour, open windows are better. At higher speeds, close the windows and turn on the air conditioner.

Slow down. Fuel economy decreases about 1% for each mph over 55. Driving 65 mph vs. 75 miles mph, for example, increases fuel economy by about 10%.

Combine trips. Your engine runs more efficiently once it’s warmed up, so avoid making multiple short trips. Stop-and-go driving also burns more gasoline. Avoid driving during rush hour whenever you can.

Reduce drag. Remove roof racks, tow-hook carriers, and other items from your vehicle that cause wind resistance when not in use.

For more information on green driving and green maintenance visit

<http://www.greendrivingusa.com> and <http://www.ecodrivingusa.com>

Washington New Car and Truck Dealers – Driving Green Communities