

# IN YOUR HANDS THE POWER IS IN YOUR HANDS

## TRANSPORTATION TIPS

save money by reducing energy bills

### NO-COST WAYS TO SAVE GAS

■ Curtail aggressive driving. Speeding, rapid acceleration and excessive braking can cut mileage up to 33 percent—that's like adding as much as 73 cents per gallon to your gas costs. Replace jack-rabbit starts with slow acceleration from a dead stop and obey the speed limit to further reduce your fuel costs.

■ Make gas mileage a priority. When buying a new car, consider fuel economy. By purchasing the most fuel-efficient vehicle in a particular class, you could save \$300–\$700 in gas per year.

■ If available, use your vehicle's overdrive gear. Running in a higher gear decreases rpms, saves gas, and reduces engine wear.

■ Use cruise control. Steady speeds during highway driving help cut fuel consumption.

■ Pack lightly when traveling and avoid carrying items on your vehicle's roof. An extra 100 pounds in the trunk cuts a typical car's fuel economy 1–2 percent.

■ Avoid excessive idling, which gets 0 mpg. Cars with larger engines typically waste even more gas when idling than cars with smaller engines.

■ Consider carpooling or ride-share programs and use public transportation whenever possible.

■ Combine errands into one trip and plan routes carefully to drive fewer miles and use less fuel. Several short trips taken from a cold start can use twice as much fuel as a longer trip covering the same distance with a warm engine.

■ Avoid driving during peak rush hours. Stop-and-go driving burns more gas and increases vehicle emissions.

■ Whenever possible, walk or ride a bicycle to your destination.

### LOW-COST WAYS TO SAVE GAS

■ Keep your car tuned up. A proper tune-up can improve gas mileage by about 4 percent and save about 9 cents per gallon. Fixing emissions problems, such as a faulty oxygen sensor, can improve mileage by as much as 40 percent.

■ Check and replace air filters regularly. Clean air filters can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent and save up to 22 cents a gallon. Replacing clogged or dirty air filters also keeps impurities from damaging the inside of your engine.

■ Keep tires properly inflated. Correct air pressure can improve gas mileage by as much as 3 percent and save up to 7 cents per gallon. This also extends tire life and ensures tire safety.

■ Change the oil. Using the manufacturer's recommended grade of motor oil can improve gas mileage by 1–2 percent, saving 2 to 4 cents per gallon. Look for "Energy Conserving" on the API performance symbol (found on the oil container) to ensure friction-reducing additives.

■ Replace worn tires with low-rolling resistance (LRR) models. Cars with these tires use less fuel to go the same speed and distance than traditional tires and can increase gas mileage by up to 4 percent.

For more information and ways to save, visit [www.powerisinyourhands.org](http://www.powerisinyourhands.org) (12/14/05)



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SAVE ENERGY  
*Creating an Energy-Efficient World*