

How to drive green

10 steps / easy ways to help you drive green.

Factual, positive, logical choices that will fit into your life with little inconvenience.

- 1) **Ease up on the jerky driving:** gradually speeding up and slowing down at stop signs and stop lights, instead of jerking your vehicle to a stop and/or screeching off at an unnecessary high speed can help aid in overall fuel economy.
- 2) **Gas up at night:** fumes created at gas stations by patrons filling up during the day are worsened when it is hot - by filling up at night, less gas evaporates, creating fewer fumes and less gasoline loss.
- 3) **Lighten your load:** by losing the cluttered junk in your trunk, you can decrease in overall vehicle weight, requiring less power and gas to operate, helping your pocketbook and the environment.
- 4) **Shade yourself:** using window shades will help keep your vehicle cooler during warmer weather, allowing your A/C to not be required to run at full blast when driving.
- 5) **Breathe clean air:** replace your air filters every 15,000 miles or so, which will help your cooling system not vacuum energy from your vehicle, beyond breathing cleaner air yourself.
- 6) **Get regular tune-ups:** keeping your vehicle's engine systems in check and in optimal running condition will provide less chance of pollution and gas-guzzling to occur in your vehicle.
- 7) **Green-accessorize:** ranging from environmentally-conscious tires to Greenpeace stickers to window-fans, there are many products out there that each make a difference, adding up to progressive change.
- 8) **Recycle, recycle, recycle:** there are many programs that will help you recycle everything in your car, as well as your car itself - take advantage of these when in disposal mode.
- 9) **Explore your car options:** If you can afford it why not switch over to a hybrid car? If not, there are more and more options evolving each year to remove our dependence on fossil fuels and vehicles that operate on them. New gas vehicles actually leave a smaller carbon footprint when the manufacturing is factored in.
- 10) **If you are up to extremes there are even more options:** if it is within your lifestyle to make the full switch, bikes, public transportation and walking can provide health benefits to your body, pocketbook and the environment.