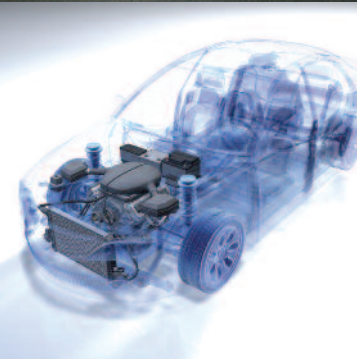


WHAT YOU CAN DO

TO CONSERVE FUEL AND
REDUCE EMISSIONS



The Issue

Vehicles Produce Pollution and Greenhouse Gases

The combustion of fuel in order to power your automobile produces emissions that pollute the air and contribute to climate change, causing negative environmental and human health impacts. In Canada, passenger cars, SUVs, minivans, and pick-up trucks produce 12-13 % of our total greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). These emissions have been steadily rising for many years as the number of vehicles on the road and the distances these vehicles travel continues to increase.

In response to the increasing strain that vehicle use is placing on the environment, CAA and Pollution Probe have teamed up to find ways to make personal vehicles more fuel efficient, thus reducing the emissions these vehicles produce. While the government and automakers will play a crucial role in improving fuel efficiency and reducing emissions, you too can play a big role, and we're here to give you some tips and pointers that can help reduce your vehicle's environmental footprint.

What You Can Do

The following tips for reducing your fuel consumption are taken from *The Primer on Automobile Fuel Efficiency and Emissions*, a new publication created by CAA and Pollution Probe that focuses on how automobile fuel efficiency performance can be improved, what industry and government are doing to address the issue, and what you can do to reduce your own automobile's emissions.

*Tips to conserve fuel and reduce emissions in your **CURRENT** vehicle*

You can be an eco-driver by driving in a safe and efficient manner, by keeping your automobile in good operating condition, and by planning your trips to minimize distance traveled.

Driving Tips:

1. Drive safely at moderate speeds and avoid aggressive starts and stops.
2. Use cruise control in dry conditions on highways to help you maintain a constant speed.
3. Lighten your load when possible and avoid lugging around extra weight.
4. Reduce your use of power-consuming features (i.e., air conditioning) to reduce the extra load on the engine.
5. Don't idle for extended periods of time.
6. Consider adding a 'real-time' fuel consumption gauge (e.g., a "scan gauge") to monitor your driving behaviour.



Maintenance Tips:

1. Keep up with your vehicle's maintenance schedule.
2. Perform a monthly maintenance check that includes:
 - (a) Checking your tire pressure
 - (b) Checking for fluid levels and for leaks
 - (c) Checking under your hood for cracked or split spark plug wires, radiator hoses, or loose clamps and corrosion around the battery terminals; and,
 - (d) Testing brakes and keeping wheels aligned
3. Use a block heater in the winter to decrease "warm up" time.



Tips to conserve fuel and reduce emissions in your NEXT vehicle

Next time you're in the market for a new vehicle, try to purchase the most fuel-efficient car that meets your needs. By doing this you will reduce the environmental impact of your vehicle and save on your annual gas bill. The checklist below can help guide your decision:

Comparing Vehicles:

1. Use the government website listed on the last page of this brochure to compare vehicles of different makes, models, and years by fuel consumption.
2. Use the EnerGuide label to compare vehicles at the dealership. If you don't see the label when you're shopping, ask the dealer.



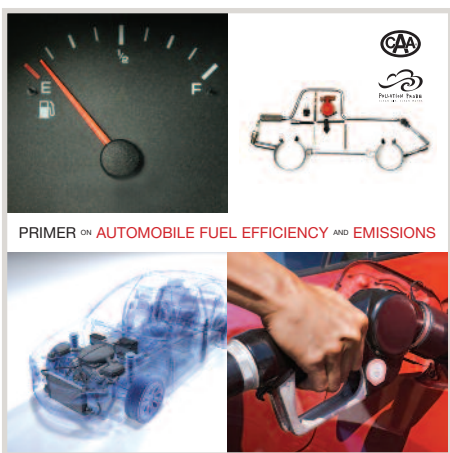
Purchasing Vehicles:

1. Choose a vehicle that fits your everyday needs in terms of size and power. Remember, when you buy something bigger for the extra size or that extra power 'just in case,' you wind up paying for it every time you gas up.
2. Advanced automatic transmissions (especially those with additional gears), can offer greater control of the engine, allowing it to operate more efficiently over a wider range of speeds. In the hands of trained driver, a manual transmission can also be a very fuel efficient choice. Depending on your driving style and skill, either of these options can yield better fuel consumption.
3. If possible, choose two-wheel drive over four-wheel drive. Four-wheel drive consumes extra fuel.
4. Be conscientious about adding features that add extra weight to your vehicle.



For additional tips for purchasing a fuel efficient vehicle, please consult the Natural Resources Canada website at:

http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/transportation/personal/choose_vehicle.cfm?attr=8



If you are interested in learning more about how automobile fuel efficiency performance can be improved, what industry and government are doing to address the issue, and what you can do to reduce your own automobile's emissions, please go to:

www.caa.ca/primer

