



## ENERGY CONSERVATION TIPS & IDEAS

### Fuel-Efficient Driving

#### *Fuel for Thought: Green Driving Tips*

You already know that speeding and aggressive driving are dangerous. But did you also know they're bad for the planet, not to mention your pocketbook?

Once you go over 55 mph, gas mileage decreases rapidly. Depending on your vehicle, exceeding this by just 10 mph could increase your fuel cost as much as 15%.

Here are the main things that can drag you down:

- Speeding
- Aggressive driving
- Quick accelerations
- Heavy braking
- Short, frequent trips
- Air-conditioning
- Under-inflated tires
- Cargo racks
- 4-wheel drive

For details and more tips on cutting your mpg and keeping your energy consumption in check, check out the following:

Planetgreen's DIY "best car greener's"

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/tech-transport/green-car-diy-tips.html>

Consumer Energy Center's transportation tips

[http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/transportation/consumer\\_tips/index.html](http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/transportation/consumer_tips/index.html)

U.S. Department of Energy's Fuel Economy Guide

Gives gas mileage tips and more. Special features include a fuel cost calculator and "Extreme MPG" videos:

<http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg>

EPA's Green Vehicle Guide

<http://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/Index.do;jsessionid=82303d7e4390363b7a7b>

The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers' "Be an EcoDriver" video and tips

<http://www.ecodrivingusa.com/#/be-an-ecodriver/>

### ***Fuel for Thought: Science Lesson - Energy Losses in a Vehicle***

Only about 15% of the energy from the fuel you put in your tank gets used to move your car down the road or run useful accessories, such as air conditioning. The rest of the energy is lost to engine and driveline inefficiencies and idling. Therefore, the potential to improve fuel efficiency with advanced technologies is enormous.

[http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/transportation/consumer\\_tips/vehicle\\_energy\\_losses.html](http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/transportation/consumer_tips/vehicle_energy_losses.html)

### ***Fuel for Thought: More Green Tips for Teens***

Check out these tips on green transportation and energy conservation from Treehugger.com and PlanetGreen.com. Bookmark these sites and keep coming back for more:

Ride the bus in winter and survive

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/tech-transport/winter-bus-travel-tips.html>

Bike-sharing programs: coming to a city near you?

<http://www.treehugger.com/files/2009/01/us-bike-sharing-program-denver-launches-pilot.php>

DIY iPod® bicycle charger

[http://www.treehugger.com/files/2005/12/diy\\_ipod\\_bicycl.php](http://www.treehugger.com/files/2005/12/diy_ipod_bicycl.php)

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For more resources, visit [www.FuelOurFutureNow.com](http://www.FuelOurFutureNow.com).