



Going the Extra Mile

Americans love their cars. This summer more than ever those same people are suffering considerable pain at the pump. Families are thinking twice before taking their annual cross-country road trips. Even everyday driving around town is becoming increasingly cost prohibitive.

A wise man once said, “you are only as good as your options.” So what are your options when it comes to getting from point A to B? Even though mass transportation (excluding air travel) may not be what it is in other countries, taking a vacation by train might be just what the doctor ordered. Check out the web site vacationsbyrail.com. You will be surprised by the number of available options.

Traditionally summer is a terrific time to sell any car. So why not seize the opportunity, sell your gas hog and purchase a more fuel efficient vehicle? Edmonds.com ranks Ford Escape’s Hybrid #1 in fuel efficient SUVs for 2008. For sedans the same year, the Toyota Prius tops the list followed by the Honda Civic Hybrid.







For scooting around town, leave the car in the garage and do like the Italians do. Get yourself a stylish Vespa. At the current rate, you’ll only spend about ten dollars to fill ‘er up, and at 70 MPG, you could be cruising on a single tank for over a week. Even better, if your office is close to home you could drive to and from work – that would make you a Scooter Commuter. As an added benefit, you will be helping the environment by reducing the amount of air pollution your vehicle produces.

Don’t forget carpooling and riding your bike. They both make a lot of sense.




For more information, check out www.drivingskillsforlife.com

More Smiles to the Gallon

Looking for ways to cut back on your gas consumption? Here are a few tips to keep your car running at optimum fuel efficiency:

-  Get scheduled tune-ups and replace dirty oil filters.
-  Use only recommended motor oil; other types can diminish performance.
-  Check tire pressure frequently – keep tires inflated at manufacturer’s recommended level.
-  Don’t Top off your gas tank; it wastes fuel that evaporates into the atmosphere.
-  Take alternative routes and avoid peak drive times that require repeated stopping and starting.
-  Avoid attaching luggage racks, trailers or other extraneous objects that increase wind drag.

One vehicle manufacturer, Ford Motor Cars, also reports there is a direct correlation between fuel economy and a driver’s behavior. During their study, Ford engineers established their drivers had realized a 38% increase in fuel economy by avoiding:

-  Excessive Idling
-  Aggressive Driving
-  Excessive Air Conditioning Use

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