

Summer Driving Tips

The heat of summer plus long summer road trips can put a lot of strain on your vehicle. Here are some recommendations to help prepare for Summer Driving and help increase your fuel economy.

- **HAVE YOUR OIL CHANGED.** Regular oil changes with the correct grade of motor oil, can help improve gas mileage by up to 2%. Synthetic oils are best for high temperature driving conditions and for added protection when towing.
- **HAVE YOUR TIRE PRESSURE CHECKED.** Keeping your tires properly inflated can help improve gas mileage by up to 3%.
- **HAVE YOUR FUEL SYSTEM CLEANED.** Fuel system cleanings can help restore maximum engine performance, specifically fuel economy, by removing dirt and deposits from the fuel system.
- **USE CRUISE CONTROL.** Utilizing cruise control on the highway will help you maintain a constant speed, which in most cases helps improve your fuel economy.
- **DON'T IDLE.** It requires less gas to turn a vehicle back on then to let it idle.
- **GO FOR THE SHADE OR A GARAGE.** The sun zaps fuel from your gas tank. Parking in the shade or garage will lessen the amount of evaporative emissions.

Keeping your car protected during the heat of summer.

- **HAVE YOUR COOLING SYSTEM (RADIATOR) CHECKED.** It protects your engine from overheating in hot summer conditions.
- **HAVE YOUR SERPENTINE BELT CHECKED.** Replacing when needed helps prevent breakdowns and keeps your systems like power steering, alternator, water pump and AC running.

- **HAVE YOUR AC SYSTEM CHECKED.** Nothing makes the summer heat more unbearable than traveling with an air conditioning system that will not cool properly.
- **HAVE YOUR WINDSHIELD WIPERS CHECKED.** The combination of bad wipers and a summer downpour can leave you with no view of the road.

By following proper maintenance procedures outlined in your vehicle's owner's manual, you can help improve fuel economy and prolong the life of your vehicle.

- **HAVE YOUR TRANSMISSION FLUID CHECKED.** Changing the fluid when needed helps restore operation by protecting the gears from grinding.
- **REGULARLY ROTATE YOUR TIRES.** Prevents uneven wear, which can shorten the life of your tires and improves handling and traction.
- **HAVE YOUR GEARBOX FLUID CHECKED.** Changing the fluid when needed restores additives to protect the gears from grinding which is especially important for 4-wheel drive vehicles because they have 3 gear boxes.

