

GET A GRIP ON GAS PRICES

Simple Tips for Improving Fuel Mileage Can Add Up to Roughly 10 Percent Savings per Tank

ST. PAUL, Minn. (June 16, 2009) – Hot summer weather is here and that means high-temperature driving is here, too. The increased heat and constantly running air conditioner place an additional burden on the engine and reduces the vehicle's fuel efficiency. Before loading up for that summer vacation – or even the daily drive to work, there are a few simple tips from 3M Car Care that can improve fuel mileage and engine performance – and save a few dollars for that summer trip.

"Over the life of a car, poor fuel efficiency can lead to hundreds, if not thousands of dollars in added expense," said John Marmar, business manager, 3M Car Care products. "Properly maintaining the vehicle through every season and watching your driving style are two of the best ways to maximize fuel efficiency and reduce long term expenses."

Today, the gas prices are rising faster than the temperature outside. Drivers can stretch each tank of gas by roughly 10 percent with simple driving tips and smart car care solutions from 3M Car Care.

3M Car Care offers six tips for drivers to maximize their car's fuel performance.

1. **Check tire pressure** - Improperly inflated tires can greatly reduce fuel economy, so make sure tires are inflated to the manufacturer's recommended pressure listed on the inside of the driver's side door. The correct tire pressure will also provide a safer ride and help reduce tire wear.
2. **Let the engine breathe** - Replacing a dirty, clogged air filter will go a long way in improving fuel efficiency. According to the federal government, a car's gas mileage could improve by as much as 10 percent with a clean air filter. In addition to the fuel savings, the new filter will help protect the engine.
3. **Keep the fuel system clean** - Carbon and resin buildup in a car's fuel system reduces fuel efficiency. You can clean the entire fuel system with the new 3M Do-It-Yourself Fuel System Tune-Up Kit. With just one tool and 45 minutes, it cleans the engine, fuel injectors, intake manifold, intake valves, combustion chambers and throttle plate with the same trusted 3M products used by automotive professionals. Keeping the fuel system clean helps maximize the engine's performance, extend the life of the engine and improve mileage.
4. **Keep it cool inside** – Summer heat requires air conditioning, but AC can account for up to 5 percent of a car's fuel consumption. Using 3M Crystalline Automotive Window Film can keep the sun and heat at bay – making the vehicle cooler and reducing the demand on a vehicle's air conditioning system. Even better, 3M Crystalline Automotive Window Films offer many of the benefits of darker window tints, with the option of being virtually clear in color.
5. **Take it easy and slow down** - Driving a car at a high speed, "jackrabbit starts" and aggressive driving in traffic can greatly reduce fuel efficiency. The U.S. Department of Energy says, "As a rule of thumb, you can assume that each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional \$0.20 per gallon for gas." And every time you "hit the gas" you get closer to the next refill.
6. **Put your car on a diet** - Remove any unnecessary, heavy objects in the vehicle. An extra 100 pounds can reduce fuel efficiency by as much as 2 percent. Even removing golf clubs can help lighten the load.

"And if you're taking the next exit off the highway, try coasting instead of staying on the gas clear to the off ramp and then using more brake. Saving a little bit sometimes will make that difference and a lot of times it's bigger than that," added Marmar.

The 3M Car Care product line can be found at leading automotive aftermarket retailers and online at www.Shop3M.com. For more information on 3M Car Care products, visit www.3MCarCare.com.

About 3M

A recognized leader in research and development, 3M produces thousands of innovative products for dozens of diverse markets. 3M's core strength is applying its more than 40 distinct technology platforms – often in combination – to a wide array of customer needs. With \$25 billion in sales, 3M employs 76,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 60 countries. For more information, visit www.3M.com.

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