



Wahiawa
Center/Cane St.
Wahiawa, HI 96786
(808) 622-2232

Kapolei
581 Farrington Hwy.
Kapolei, HI 96707
(808) 674-8444

Waipio
94-1235A Ka Uka Blvd.
Waipahu, HI 96797
(808) 678-3717

GAS PRICES RISING, AGAIN?

Simple ways to maximize fuel economy

It seems like every time you take your vehicle out, gas prices have gone up. Thankfully, there are tips to aid you in getting the most mileage per gallon.

If you are considering purchasing a new vehicle, there are many great fuel-efficient vehicles to choose from today. You can also help reduce pollution and save money on gas by riding mass transit if it is available in your area, or carpooling. Check out sites like www.erideshare.com to find carpools in your area. If you are unable to take advantage of these options, there are still plenty of other ways to get the most out of your fuel. Below are some tips on how to do so.

- **Oil Changes**
Regularly changing your oil will add many miles to your engine. Changing your engine oil according to your car manufacturer's recommendation in your owner's manual will help lubricate the engine, minimize friction and carry away excessive heat, all of which will lead to greater fuel efficiency.
- **Use the Right Grade**
Make sure that you are using the right grade of motor oil for your vehicle. This is usually printed on the oil cap or in your owner's manual.
- **Drive Sensibly**
Aggressive driving (speeding, rapid acceleration and braking) wastes gas. It can lower your gas mileage up to 33 percent at highway speeds and up to 5 percent around town.
- **Observe the Speed Limit**
While every vehicle reaches its optimal fuel economy at a different speed, gas mileage usually decreases at speeds above 60 mph. 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 of gas.

- **Air Filter**

Filters are a crucial part of regular vehicle maintenance and act as the ‘vehicle’s lung’. Dirty air filters make it harder for the engine to breathe. If the flow is restricted by a clogged air filter, the fuel economy and vehicle performance will suffer. Replacing a clogged air filter can increase your mileage by up to 10 percent.

- **Tires**

Under-inflated tires affect your mileage by increasing resistance and making it more difficult for the engine to move the car along the road. For every 1-PSI you are under the optimal rate, you lose 0.4 percent of your miles per gallon. The average person can improve mileage by approximately 3.3 percent by inflating their tires to the proper psi for their vehicle.

- **Remove Excess Weight**

Avoid keeping unneeded items in your vehicle, especially heavy ones. An extra 100 pounds in your vehicle could reduce your fuel economy by up to 2%. The reduction is based on the percentage of extra weight relative to the vehicle's weight and affects smaller vehicles more than larger ones.

- **Avoid Excessive Idling**

When your vehicle is idling, you are getting 0 miles to the gallon.

- **Use Cruise Control**

By using cruise control on the highway you will be maintaining a constant speed and saving gas.

- **Secure Gas Cap**

Make sure your gas cap is on and not loose or damaged. 147 million gallons of gas vaporizes every year due to these conditions.

With gas prices expected to keep rising, now is a crucial time to save money any way possible. You can't control the price of gas, but you can practice better driving habits and have regular car maintenance performed to improve your gas mileage. Visit www.flagshiphawaii.com or come into one of our 3 convenient locations and let us help you improve your gas mileage with regular auto maintenance.