

CLEAN VEHICLES AND YOUR HEALTH

When gasoline and diesel are used, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions are created. Air pollution can cause asthma and trigger attacks, make heart problems worse, and contain cancer-causing chemicals. Greenhouse gases produced by cars, contribute to global climate change. Climate change is predicted to increase heat-related deaths, the formation of air pollution, and diseases like West Nile virus.



The **Boston Public Health Commission** is committed to improving air quality in our city by promoting cleaner vehicles. The **Toyota Prius** is a hybrid electric vehicle that is fueled with gasoline, but has very low emissions and gets over 50 mpg during city driving. Honda also makes hybrid vehicles.

Get the Biggest Bang for Your Buck – Fuel Efficiency

Fuel efficiency, measured in miles per gallon (mpg), is an important way to figure out the impact of your car on air quality, as well as your pocket book. **Save money and reduce air pollution - make sure you're getting the smallest, most efficient car you need.** For instance, SUVs are much less efficient than other cars and should be used only when necessary. No matter what size of car you want to purchase, you should make sure you're getting the most fuel-efficient on the market. These websites offer resources to help you compare vehicles:

www.fueleconomy.gov

www.greenercars.com

WAYS TO DRIVE MORE EFFICIENTLY

Avoid excessive idling – it is against the law to idle for more than 5 minutes!

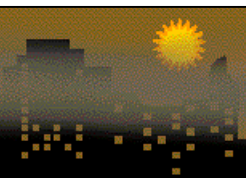
Forget quick starts and stops – they can reduce your gas mileage.

Make sure your vehicle is tuned up and the tires are properly inflated.

If you have two cars, drive the more efficient one whenever possible.

Carpool and telecommute when you can. Better yet, skip the drive and take public transit, walk or bicycle whenever you can!

For more detailed driving tips and a info about the gas and money you'll save, visit: www.state.ma.us/doer/pub_info/dt.pdf



The Boston Public Health Commission is working to address the negative health threats from air pollution and global climate change by promoting energy-efficient buildings, fuel-efficient vehicles, and clean energy sources in Boston.

Please call us at (617) 534-2680 for more information.