

## Drive Green, Save Fuel, Save Money

You too can drive green – and save on fuel. It only takes one car to impact the environment. An average car, for example, emits up to 575 pounds of carbon monoxide into the air each year according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).



Go Green Columbus!

Some simple ways to curb emissions and improve your gas mileage include:

**-Upgrading your motor oil.** The new high-performance synthetic motor oil significantly reduces emissions. Studies show the new “Royal Purple” motor oil is responsible for cutting carbon monoxide emissions by up to 62 percent compared to conventional motor oils. It also improves fuel economy by up to five percent, while increasing torque and horsepower.

**-Replacing your air filter regularly.** A dirty or clogged air filter increases fuel consumption by as much as 10 percent. Replacing your air filter regularly saves gas and protects your engine.

**-Maintaining proper tire inflation.** Under inflated tires can increase fuel consumption by up to 6 percent.

**-Following your auto manufacturer’s tune-up schedule.** An out-of-tune engine can increase your emissions and fuel consumption by up to 15 percent.

Lastly, the biggest impact you can have is driving an electric car or “plug in” hybrid car around town. Electric cars such as the **Zenn** have the equivalent gas mileage of 300-400 miles per



gallon and have all the modern conveniences such as air conditioning, heating, stereo, power windows and locks, sunroof, and a comfortable, spacious interior. As an added bonus, they offer zero emission and no noise. No gas or oil change required.

With a top legal speed of 25 mph, electric cars have a range of 30-35 miles on a single charge. They are battery electric, operate on a 72 volt battery system and plug in anywhere to a standard 110 volt outlet. They can be recharged anytime in approximately 4-8 hours. One charge costs about 50 cents in electricity.

Additionally, the cost of maintenance, insurance and registration on electric cars is much lower than a typical car.

Electric cars are legal in Columbus, as well as any municipality that passes an “NEV” (neighborhood electric vehicle) ordinance.

To encourage the use of electric cars, the new Columbus City Hall parking lot will be equipped with electric plug in outlets.

Both the Zenn and Gem meet or exceed all federal safety regulations. The *Chevrolet Volt*, soon to be manufactured by General Motors, is expected to debut on the market by 2010.

Considering that half the cars on America's roads are driven 25 miles a day or less, an electric plug in or hybrid with a 30-35 mile range battery could eliminate gasoline use in the daily commute of millions of Americans.

Look for an electric car dealership near you soon.

For more information on electric plug-ins and fuel economy, visit these websites:

[zenncars.com](http://zenncars.com), [gemcar.com](http://gemcar.com), [pluginamerica.org](http://pluginamerica.org), [pluginpartners.org](http://pluginpartners.org), [royal.purple.com](http://royal.purple.com) (fuel economy).

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