

Gas vehicles have been on the road since the late 1800s. They have served their time. Now, for humans and for the planet, it is time to make the transition to cleaner vehicles: plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) and all-electrics (EVs). These vehicles pollute less from the tailpipe or not at all, have half the maintenance and repair costs, perform better and more efficiently, and when purchased, new or used, offer incentives and tax credit. Big win, win, win, win!



## HOW CLEAN?



2024 TOYOTA PRIUS HEV

### HYBRID (HEV)

**PRO:** Can run on battery power alone during light acceleration. 80% less idling. 25%–40% better fuel economy.  
**CON:** Still gasoline dependent.



2024 KIA NIRO PHEV

### PLUG-IN HYBRID (PHEV)

**PRO:** More robust battery. Works with smaller gas engine to achieve 30%–60% better fuel economy.  
**CON:** battery range 14–65 mi.



2024 CHEVROLET EQUINOX EV

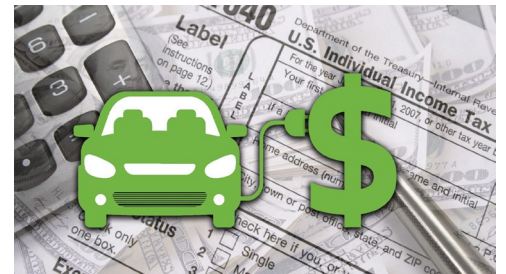
### ALL-ELECTRIC (EV)

**PRO:** Zero tailpipe emissions, no gas, no oil. Charging stations growing. 1/2 maintenance costs.  
**CON:** Used EV range of 75–110 mi. not ideal for longer commutes.

## VERMONT EV CHARGING STATION INFRASTRUCTURE - 2024

Vermont has nearly 450 public level 2 & DC Fast charging stations

<https://www.driveelectricvt.com/about-evs/charging-map>

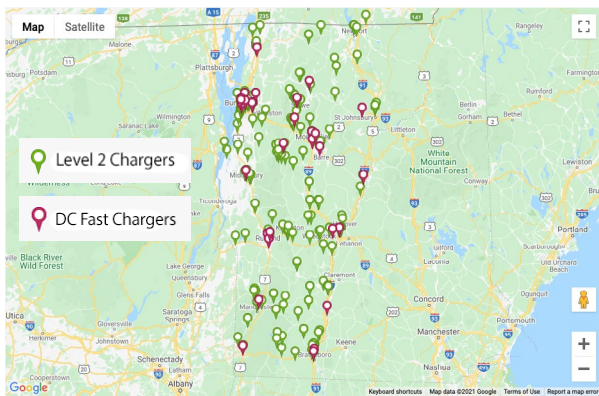


## VERMONT UTILITY EV INCENTIVES & FEDERAL TAX CREDIT - 2024

- Six Vermont electric utility companies offer EV cash incentives (some also include PHEVs) from hundreds to thousands of dollars, depending on buyer income
- Federal Tax Credit up to \$7,500 – limited eligibility

VISIT DRIVE ELECTRIC VERMONT FOR INCENTIVE UPDATES

<https://www.driveelectricvt.com/incentives>



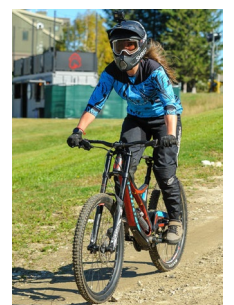
## WHAT ABOUT NOT OWNING A CAR?

Short commute to school or work? Non car-owning options can save lots of money and reduce your carbon footprint. *Big win-win!*

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION • BICYCLING (INCLUDING E-BIKE)

WALKING • CAR SHARING • RIDE SHARING

Search [Go! Vermont](#) for various alternatives to driving.



**FIRST: SMART DRIVING IS SAFER DRIVING.** As a smart driver, conducting smooth acceleration/ deceleration, avoiding tailgating, and complying with speed limits helps make you more aware of the flow of traffic around and ahead of you, allowing more reaction time to perform evasive maneuvers.

## ACCELERATE AND BRAKE SMOOTHLY.

Save fuel and maintenance costs. Fast starts, weaving in traffic and hard braking does the opposite. **Watch for lights that turn red ahead!** Stop accelerating and coast to them – save fuel and brakes, and maybe the light will turn green before you get there, maintaining some vehicle momentum to save more fuel. Further, let’s say, on average, five red lights are encountered daily. With this smart practice, 75¢ can be saved: five nickels in fuel; five dimes in brake wear – over 300 days of driving in a year, \$225 can be saved!



**ONE DAY=75¢ SAVED**



**300 DAYS=\$225 SAVED**

**Fuel Economy Benefit: 10%–40%**

**WATCH YOUR SPEED.** Avoid tailgating. Aim for a constant speed – aggressively pumping accelerator is inefficient driving. At highway speeds, drive 60–65 miles per hour to save fuel. Use cruise control whenever possible on the highway to maintain even speed and conserve fuel.



**Fuel Economy Benefit: 7%–14%**

**PARKED IDLING IN VT is restricted by law:** <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/23/013/01110> In winter, generally limit warmups to 30 seconds (defrosting must be adequate) – driving is best way to warmup. **NOTE:** 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than shutting off and restarting.



**Fuel Economy Benefit: save .4 gal/hr**

## ADDITIONAL SMART DRIVING TIPS

**TIRES:** Keep tires properly inflated. Under-inflated tires increase rolling resistance, reducing fuel economy by 3–4%. They also wear more rapidly and can be a safety hazard.

**MAINTENANCE:** Perform engine tune-ups to keep vehicle running efficiently. Keep wheels aligned to avoid premature wear and fuel waste. Replace air filters as recommended.

**WEIGHT:** Unneed items in trunk and on roof—including aerodynamic drag factor—makes engine work harder, reducing fuel economy by 1–17%.

**MINIMIZE A/C:** Use heating and air conditioning selectively to reduce the load on engine. Decreasing A/C usage in hotter temperatures can save 10–15 percent of fuel.

\*Many of these tips are applicable to plug-in vehicles to increase range

**For complete smart driving tips and green driving apps, visit:**  
<http://greendrivingamerica.org/smart-driving-tips.html>