

BEST PRACTICES



Electric Vehicles—It's All Good

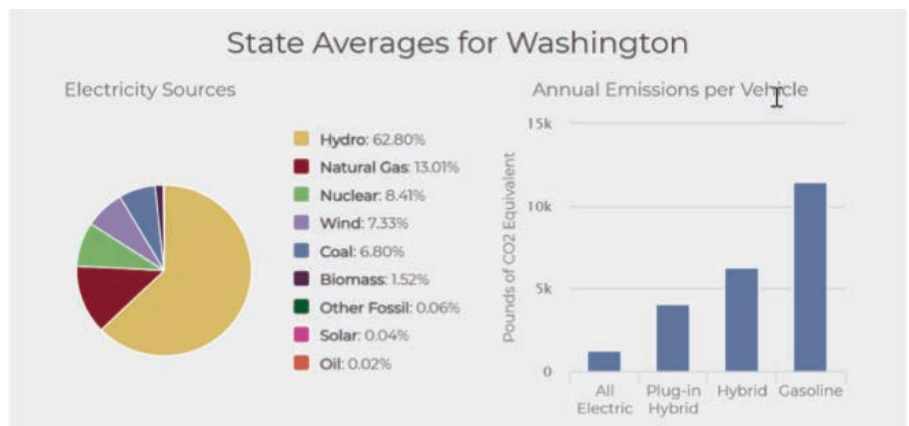
What More people are switching to all-electric vehicles (EVs) these days! If you are looking to purchase a new or used vehicle, consider buying an EV. Driving an EV will not only lower your carbon footprint, you can save money and help protect our local waterways!

Healthier Waters

You might be asking yourself, “How can driving an EV help protect our local waterways?” Reducing vehicle leaks is a big priority for Puget Sound, and EVs don’t leak oil, gas and other fluids. That’s because EVs have a lot fewer moving parts- so they don’t require lubrication fluids. The most common way toxic chemicals reach Puget Sound is through polluted surface runoff—also known as stormwater.

Lower Emissions

In the Pacific Northwest, most of our power comes from hydroelectric and other renewable energy sources. That means that when you drive an EV you are trading fossil fuels (gasoline and diesel) for energy coming from dams, wind farms and (sometimes) solar power. Look up your specific zip code’s electricity mix and EV emissions on the US Department of Energy’s Alternative Fuels Data Center.



Did you know?

- Petroleum-related compounds from motor oil drips and vehicle leaks account for almost two-thirds of the release of petroleum-related compounds into Puget Sound!
- Used oil from a single oil change can pollute up to one million gallons of freshwater.
- The EPA estimates that American households improperly dump about 193 million gallons of used oil every year, or roughly the equivalent of 17 Exxon Valdez oil spills.

Cost Savings

The income tax rebate of up to \$7,500 for buying a new EV, and the fact that you don't have to pay Washington's sales tax on most of the price of new and used EVs both make the cars a lot more affordable than they look at first glance. Depending on your local gasoline and electric rates, EV operation can be 3 to 5 times cheaper than gasoline and diesel-powered cars.

Bye-Bye Gas Stations

All electric vehicles do not require gasoline and can be charged at home with a standard 120V outlet, or a 240V outlet or charger can be installed for faster, more efficient charging.

EV Performance Benefits

Electric motors provide quiet, smooth operation, stronger acceleration and require less maintenance than gasoline-powered internal combustion engines.

EV Driving Range and Recharge Time

EV range on a full charge goes from around 80 to over 330 miles. The average American's daily round-trip commute is less than 30 miles. Fully recharging the bigger battery packs with 240V can take 4 to 8 hours, so you can charge while you sleep. A "fast charge" to 80% capacity can take as little as 30 min.

If you are interested in learning more about the benefits of EVs visit climatetoolbox.info/estimates-for-evs-in-thurston-county.

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