

11 Appendix C: Green Driving Code

In the chapter on Event Greening, the role of 'green' driving was highlighted. This appendix contains a list of tips that is relevant to both private and public forms of transport, seeking to reduce all vehicle emissions in a few simple ways. The application of eco-driving principles is one way in which the use of motorised vehicles can be enhanced.

1. Drive smoothly

Try to avoid harsh acceleration and braking - pulling away too fast can use up to 60% more fuel.

2. Change gears efficiently

Changing gear at 1,500 to 2,500 rpm can save up to 15% on fuel - and reduce emissions by the same amount.

3. Be aware & take defensive action

Look ahead and anticipate road conditions and other people's actions - this reduces the need for hard braking and acceleration, and so will help you drive more efficiently and safely.

4. Don't rev

Avoid revving the engine unnecessarily - this wastes fuel and increases harmful emissions.

5. Limit your speed

Observe the speed limits - by driving fast you increase the emissions from the vehicle and optimise your fuel consumption - while avoiding speeding fines and accidents.

6. Know where you are going to

Plan your journeys by getting an exact address and familiarise yourself with directions to avoid getting lost - you will have a more relaxing journey and waste less fuel.

7. Idling in traffic jams

If stuck in a traffic jam for more than a couple of minutes, turn off the engine to cut exhaust emissions and conserve fuel.

8. Keep your cool

Using air vents rather than opening windows reduces fuel consumption by 4%, while air conditioning can increase fuel consumption by up to 2 litres per 100km; only use the air-conditioner when really necessary and switch it off at regular intervals.

9. Travel light

Do not over-fill the fuel tank with as this adds unnecessary weight.

10. Tune-up

Service your vehicle regularly to keep it running optimally.

11. Hyper-miling is hip

Bring your vehicle slowly up to speed and try to maintain a smooth cruising speed by using the accelerator as little as possible.

Source: www.thegreencab.co.za

