

Lead Foot Wastes Fuel

If you've been in one of the department's cars lately, you may have noticed a static-cling sticker pasted somewhere on one of the car's glass surfaces. The DENR Sustainability Team is quietly placing the stickers, shown here, in all the department's fleet vehicles.

The stickers are to help remind state vehicle drivers that by slowing down, we can maximize fuel efficiency for our fleet, and possibly avoid costly speeding tickets. Most automobiles begin to waste fuel once the vehicle speed exceeds 60 miles per hour. Driving 70 MPH uses almost 10 percent more fuel to cover the same distance as driving 60 MPH. Speeding tickets can result in losing the privilege of operating state-owned vehicles, and may negatively impact an employee's job performance.



Aggressive driving can also waste fuel. Rapid acceleration, rapid braking and abrupt lane changes use substantially more fuel. In city driving, this can reduce a vehicle's efficiency by five percent. Once on the highway, aggressive driving can waste up to 33 percent of a car's fuel. Aggressive driving is also dangerous for you and for other drivers around you.

Even the most efficient automobile gets 0 MPG when idling. Plan ways to conduct business that allows the car to be turned off, not leave it idling. Idling a state vehicle for longer than a minute or so should be a rare occurrence rather than the norm.

With warmer temperatures bringing ozone concerns to the forefront, and the governor's fuel displacement initiative to reduce state agencies' fuel consumption 20 percent by 2010, DENR employees can be leaders by driving efficiently and safely.

Look for the new cling stickers in a state vehicle near you! If your vehicles need a sticker, let us know - contact your Sustainability Team Representative. Don't know who your representative is? [Click here to see a team list.](#)