



The Biofriendly Blog

At Biofriendly Corporation we believe in a greener planet. This blog is about green issues and sustainable, biofriendly alternatives.

Jun 15 Fuel Economy Through Ride-Sharing

Posted (Tara) on 15-06-2009



Image by [biofriendly](#)

If you ask almost anyone, they know that ride-sharing, car- or van-pooling and using public transportation will definitely make a difference to your fuel economy. It will also save you money. So, why don't more people ride-share or car-pool?

Maybe it's because they don't know how much they will save. Now I don't live in the Northeast, but I recently started following a company on Twitter and thought I'd go to their site and check it out. It's The Rideshare Company. So I went to www.rideshare.com to calculate how much we would save if we had my husband ride-share or van-pool to work (I work from home, so no car-pool needed).

I filled out their form and it showed that the estimated cost per mile for gas, maintenance and tires ran us about \$0.2437. Then it showed the estimated cost per day for vehicle depreciation was \$11.63. His overall estimated drive-alone commuting costs were \$448.98 per month and \$5387.76 per year. Ouch! Then they gave me the estimated cost for full time ride-share costs in a full size van - \$1584.00, breaking down to about \$132.00 per month. Well, that's a heck of a lot better than the \$448.98 per month in drive-alone costs!

They also give you some environmental impact results they've had so far, including contributing to: 402 million less miles traveled, 11 million fewer vehicle trips, 201 thousand fewer tons of emissions released into the air (could be reduced even further with a good **fuel additive**) and 19 million gallons of gasoline conserved. And that's just from one ride-share company!

So, if every car emits its own weight in CO2 per year, then cutting just 25 miles a week from your regular driving could apparently save 1500 lbs of CO2. Plus just think of the fuel economy, the savings and the lowered stress levels you would have by ride-sharing even just once or twice a week. Honey...your ride-share is here!

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Jun 12 Mother Nature's take on Global Warming

Posted (Tara) on 12-06-2009



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Have you ever wondered what Mother Nature thinks about Global Warming? There's always talk about how humans have caused global warming or the various different factors that contribute to global warming, but what does Mother Nature think?

If people cut down the rainforests, is she kind and forgiving or does she strike back with flooding in that same area...flooding that would have been lessened if the rainforests were still intact? If we waste water, does she redirect rivers and streams thus creating droughts or dry wastelands? If we demolish fields, trees and streams to build factories, businesses, etc. all in the name of "progress", does Mother Nature sit back and watch or does she shake with anger and let loose an earthquake?

Every day there is talk about how to deal with global warming/climate change, but I think MNN.com (Mother Nature Network) had a **good blog** where they talked about how the U.N. Environment Program pointed out, in a recent report, that Nature's way is best when it comes to controlling the gases responsible for climate change. True, isn't it?

If we invested in planting more trees, conserving water, developing eco-systems, etc. rather than just spending money on carbon offsets, "cleaning" coal (**how do you clean coal anyway?**) or burying carbon emissions back into the Earth (that would tick me off if I was Mother Nature), wouldn't we all be better off?

Maybe if we did more global activities that gave back to Mother Nature, maybe she would give back more to us. Maybe if we each took a closer look at what we could do, that would help too. It's something to think about the next time you throw trash on the ground, decide not to recycle, leave the water running for 20 minutes, drive rather than walk to the store across the street, etc. What do you think Mother Nature thinks about Global Warming?

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Jun 08 Are You Part of The Environmentally-Friendly Auto Club?

Posted (Tara) on 08-06-2009



Image by [biofriendly](#)

When you're looking for roadside assistance, I'm sure AAA comes to the front of your mind, possibly followed by the roadside assistance insurance you may/may not pay with your car insurance. Then sometimes the good 'ole Metro Freeway Service Patrol will come to the rescue. But did you know there is another roadside assistance service...one that advocates FOR the environment! There is!

Welcome to the Better World Club. Better World Club (BWC) is a nationwide roadside assistance service, similar to AAA. Main difference? They promote themselves as the only environmentally-friendly auto club. Just look at **their services**: they offer their members eco-travel services, discounts on hybrid car rental, insurance services, free maps, auto maintenance discounts and even bicycle roadside assistance. They also donate 1% of annual revenues toward environmental cleanup and advocacy.

Based on their rates, I could get their basic auto (towing up to 5 miles) and bicycle membership for less than I pay for my AAA membership. One thing to note, each member is entitled to only four service calls per year...luckily I haven't needed roadside assistance in years.

They even include travel tips such as "Car Efficiency Tips". It lists 14 easy-to-follow tips...nice. Also, don't forget to ensure your car is tuned up before you leave on a trip and use a proven **fuel additive** to get you a complete fuel burn. Doing this can reduce harmful emissions and increase your fuel efficiency during your trip.

So, if you're looking for roadside assistance, eco-travel services, discounts on hybrid car rentals, etc. you need to check out Better World Club. Even if you aren't looking for these services, if you are interested in environmentally-friendly services, you need to take the time to check them out. As BWC says, it just might..."Improve Your Car-mal!"

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[« Previous Entries](#)

Pages

- [About Biofriendly](#)
- [Archive Index](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Links](#)

Archives

- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)
- [December 2008](#)
- [November 2008](#)
- [October 2008](#)
- [June 2008](#)
- [May 2008](#)
- [April 2008](#)
- [March 2008](#)
- [December 2007](#)
- [November 2007](#)
- [October 2007](#)
- [September 2007](#)
- [August 2007](#)
- [July 2007](#)

Categories

- [Acid Rain \(2\)](#)
- [additive \(1\)](#)
- [Air Pollution \(42\)](#)
- [alternative fuel \(1\)](#)
- [Asthma \(1\)](#)
- [bio-diesel \(7\)](#)
- [biofriendly \(19\)](#)
- [Biofriendly Corporation \(24\)](#)
- [biofuel \(9\)](#)
- [car-pool \(1\)](#)
- [carbon footprint \(1\)](#)
- [clean coal \(2\)](#)
- [combustion catalyst \(2\)](#)
- [diesel \(1\)](#)
- [eco-friendly \(1\)](#)
- [Economy \(6\)](#)
- [Emissions \(85\)](#)
- [Energy \(27\)](#)
- [Environment \(88\)](#)
- [EPA \(1\)](#)
- [fuel additive \(55\)](#)
- [Fuel Economy \(39\)](#)
- [fuel enhancer \(1\)](#)
- [gasoline \(11\)](#)
- [Global Warming \(35\)](#)
- [green \(29\)](#)
- [Green Plus \(12\)](#)
- [hybrid \(5\)](#)
- [liquid combustion catalyst \(3\)](#)
- [liquid fuel catalyst \(1\)](#)
- [Marine \(2\)](#)
- [Mother Nature \(1\)](#)
- [organic \(1\)](#)
- [pollution \(14\)](#)
- [rainforests \(1\)](#)
- [recycle \(4\)](#)
- [Recycling \(16\)](#)
- [ride-share \(1\)](#)
- [solar \(2\)](#)
- [Uncategorized \(54\)](#)

Blogroll

- [AutoblogGreen](#)
- [Biofriendly.com](#)
- [Domestic Fuel](#)
- [Earth911.com](#)
- [Ecoscene](#)
- [EcoSpheric Blog](#)
- [Energy Power Alternatives](#)
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