|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Contact: Your Name, Coordinator  XYZ Coalition  Phone: (xyz) zzz-zzzz  Email: xyz@zzz.com | Street Address  City, State Zip Code  Website URL | XYZ CLEAN CITIES Coalition |

# **MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Fuel Economy Tips for Hybrids, Plug-in Hybrids, and Electric Vehicles**

City, Month DD, YYYY:

Your Name, Coordinator of the XYZ Clean Cities Coalition is pleased to provide a few simple tips that can help fleets and consumers improve the efficiency of their hybrids, plug-in hybrids, and electric vehicles (EVs).

**Read the Owner's Manual**It sounds simple, but these vehicles can vary significantly in design, especially in the way they manage energy use. The manufacturer knows how to operate and maintain your vehicle to maximize fuel economy, driving range, and battery life. So, consult your owner’s manual for tips specific to your vehicle.

**Use the Economy Mode**Many of these vehicles come with an "economy mode" or similar feature that maximizes the vehicle’s fuel economy. In some vehicles, this mode can be activated by simply pressing a button. The economy mode may limit other aspects of the vehicle’s performance, such as acceleration rate, to save fuel.

**Avoid Hard Braking**Anticipate stops and brake gently or moderately. This allows the vehicle’s regenerative braking system to recover energy from the vehicle’s forward motion and store it as electricity. Hard braking causes the vehicle to use its friction brakes, which do not recover energy.

**Keep the Battery Charged (EVs and Plug-in Hybrids Only)**For plug-in hybrids, keeping the battery charged ensures that you will use as much electricity and as little gasoline as possible, saving you fuel and money. For EVs, it helps maximize your driving range.For lithium-ion batteries, the type typically used in EVs and plug-in hybrids, recharging a partially charged battery pack ("topping off the battery") does not degrade the battery’s storage capacity or make it degrade more quickly.

**Use Accessories Wisely**Accessories such as heating, air conditioning, and entertainment systems affect fuel economy on all vehicles, but they can have a greater effect on hybrids and electrics. So, keep that in mind when trying to maximize fuel economy or electric range. Pre-heating or pre-cooling the cabin of a plug-in hybrid or EV while the vehicle is still plugged in, for example, can extend its electric range.

**Learn More**  
In addition to the tips described here, many of the gas-saving driving and maintenance tips for conventional vehicles also apply to hybrid and electric vehicles**.** To learn more, please visit  
[www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/drive.shtml](https://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/drive.shtml).

For more information about how you can minimize your transportation-related petroleum use, contact Your Name, Coordinator of the XYZ Clean Cities Coalition.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Clean Cities advances the nation’s economic, environmental, and energy security by supporting local actions to reduce petroleum use in transportation. Clean Cities is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.