



# The *Green* Driving Booklet

Produced by the HTMA

Supported by



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“Reducing the UK’s carbon footprint is one of the biggest challenges facing us today. It is important to raise drivers’ awareness of the impact of their vehicles on the environment and the individual economic benefits that arise from eco-driving. The HTMA Green Driving book demonstrates how the people who work in the industry can get involved in reducing carbon emissions in their everyday driving. I am delighted to support this initiative that fits so well with my Department’s ‘ACT ON CO<sub>2</sub>’ Campaign.”

Lord Andrew Adonis  
Minister of State for Transport



# What is the HTMA?

**THE HIGHWAYS TERM MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATION (HTMA)** is an organisation of the leading maintenance companies within the UK.

**THE HTMA** maintains approximately 400,000km of Highway.

**THE HTMA** has a dedicated Environmental Working Group which is striving to create a greener highway environment through reducing the impact of work on UK roads.

**THE GROUP** has the principle aim of calculating and reducing the carbon emissions generated through maintenance activities.



A well tuned engine can improve fuel economy by up to 4%



For every extra 45kg you carry, your fuel efficiency drops by 1-2%



A tyre under inflated by 1 psi can reduce fuel efficiency by as much as 3%

An under inflated tyre is an unnecessary safety risk and dangerous under all circumstances. Proper inflation and good tyre condition increases safety and fuel efficiency while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. To ensure these positive effects, tyre pressure should be maintained regularly and tyre condition checked at least once a month.

# Vehicle preparation

**WEIGHT** Reduce weight and fuel consumption by removing unnecessary items from your vehicle.

**TYRE PRESSURE** Ensure you have the correct tyre pressure.

**TYRE CONDITION** Worn out tyres reduces fuel efficiency.

**WHEEL ALIGNMENT** Faulty wheel alignment will slow rolling resistance, increasing fuel consumption.

**MAINTENANCE** Ensure your vehicle maintenance and inspection is completed on time.

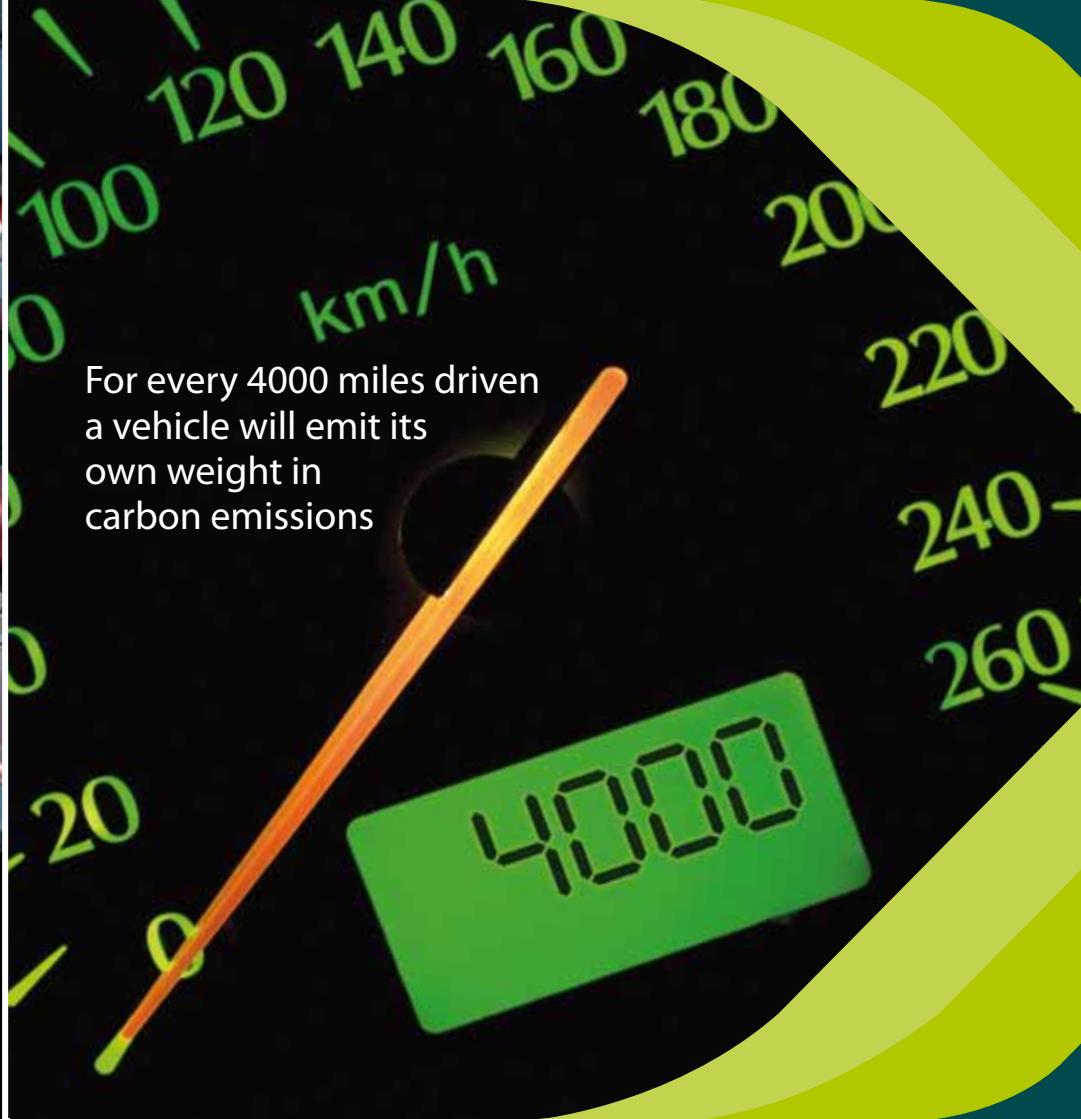
**USE CORRECT OIL** Using the manufacturers recommended oil can improve fuel efficiency by 1-2%.

**CHECK THE SEAL ON YOUR CAP IS AIR TIGHT** Fuel evaporates every time you open the fuel cap.

**KEEP WINDOWS CLOSED** As wind blowing through an open window will slow you down.



In heavy traffic jams the air quality can be poorer inside the car than out



For every 4000 miles driven a vehicle will emit its own weight in carbon emissions

# Journey planning

**PLAN AS MANY JOBS AS POSSIBLE IN ONE TRIP** aim to get as much done as you can out of the journey. Five jobs in one trip is better for the environment than five trips!

**AVOID CONGESTED AREAS** and so reduce travel time.

**VEHICLE SHARING** can benefit the environment by lowering emissions. Have you considered sharing the journey to work with colleagues?

**PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** have you got everything you need? A simple check could reduce the need to make a return journey to the depot.

**IN CONSULTATION WITH YOUR LINE MANAGER**  
**TIME SHIFT YOUR JOURNEY** a 20 minute delay could make all the difference to time in your vehicle.

**AVOID DRIVING WHERE POSSIBLE** 'the greenest mile is the one not driven'.



Air conditioning reduces fuel economy by 8 -10% so only use if necessary

Road transport produces 18% of all carbon dioxide - the equivalent to 98 million tonnes!



# Driving Technique

**OBSERVE THE SPEED LIMIT** Fuel efficiency drops significantly over 60 mph. The faster you go the more wind resistance and the more fuel your vehicle will consume.

**USE AIR CONDITIONING SPARINGLY** Air conditioning puts added strain on the engine and uses fuel to operate so limit use particularly on hot or cold days.

**SHUT OFF ALL POWER ACCESSORIES BEFORE TURNING OFF YOUR ENGINE** Power consuming accessories such as the radio or air conditioning can increase the load on your engine upon starting, which then increases fuel consumption.

**DRIVE SMOOTHLY** Aggressive driving can use as much as a third more fuel than safe driving. Avoid accelerating or braking too hard and try to keep your steering as smooth as possible.

Smooth driving in urban areas can reduce fuel consumption by more than 10%

10%

# Driving Technique

**USE HIGH GEARS** The higher the gear you drive in the lower your engine speed is, which can improve fuel efficiency, so change up a gear when you can.

**AVOID OVER REVVING** Revving your engine wastes fuel. Change gear in good time when you pull away or when accelerating. Never 'red line' the rev counter.

**AVOID EXCESS IDLING** Idling gets you nowhere but still uses fuel. Turn the engine off when you're in a queue, waiting for someone or until you need it.

**USE CRUISE CONTROL** Using cruise control on major roads helps you maintain a constant speed and will improve fuel consumption.



# Further Information

Highways Term Maintenance Association  
[www.htma.co.uk](http://www.htma.co.uk)

Department for Transport  
[www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk)

Driving Standards Agency  
[www.dsa.gov.uk](http://www.dsa.gov.uk)

Highways Agency  
[www.highways.gov.uk](http://www.highways.gov.uk)

ACT ON CO<sup>2</sup>  
[www.direct.gov.uk/actonco2](http://www.direct.gov.uk/actonco2)

Environment Agency  
[www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

SEPA  
[www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk)



The HTMA was founded in April 2005  
with 13 members; by 2008 this has grown to 20 members

# Current members



ATKINS

Balfour Beatty  
Infrastructure Services



Enterprise  
maintaining the infrastructure of the UK

VolkerFitzpatrick

Halcrow



JACOBS

MAY GURNEY

GallifordTry plc

m Mott  
MacDonald

mouchel 

RINGWAY

SKANSKA



 WSP

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