

Fuel Price Woes – some helpful hints!

by Nancy Brinton

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Our RVs might not move down the road as often as we'd like, but we feel your pain. Here are some hints about maximizing your fuel efficiency and fuel-related web links.

The experts we consulted all agree that getting back to the basics of good vehicle maintenance is key to controlling the gas mileage your RV or tow vehicle achieves.

Tires: Good tread, along with inflation pressure that is appropriate to the vehicle and road conditions, is very important.

Filters: Be vigilant about the cleanliness of your air and fuel filters.

Speed: Slow and steady wins the gas mileage race. Don't rush to get up to speed. Make your cruising speed slower than you might have in the past because 55-60 mph can save you some money. The fueleconomy.gov website says, "... you can assume that each 5 mph you drive over 60 mph is like paying an additional \$0.20 per gallon for gas."

Reduce idling time; idling gets 0 mpg.

Use your cruise control when you can; it's more reliable at maintaining a steady speed than your foot!

Use a cash-back rewards credit card or gas card to purchase fuel. Every little bit helps.

This website, <http://www.fueleconomy.gov/feg/gasprices/states/>, is really handy. Just click on the state you're wondering about and information about fuel prices and trends in that state is readily available.

The gas buddy website, <http://www.gasbuddy.com/>, includes the Canadian provinces.

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