

Transportation

CREATED BY YOUR STUDENT
SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION
COORDINATORS

CAL_SSEC@YAHOO.COM
RECYCLE.BERKELEY.EDU/SSEC

LINKS

public-safety.berkeley.edu/p&t

www.ebbc.org

www.baystep.org

www.dot.ca.gov

www.dot.gov

www.epa.gov/otaq

www.transcoalition.org

www.ecotopia.com/st

www.fueleconomy.gov

www.cfte.org

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

Transportation is a major part of our everyday life. We all spend time each day traveling to and from work, school, errands and recreational activities. The number of vehicles has seen a huge increase in the last few decades and consequently, traffic has become worse and worse. Stop-and-go traffic during rush hour is not a rare event anymore, but is now commonplace. In addition to wasting valuable time, this takes a huge toll on the environment by using up fuel and emitting pollutants into the air that cause numerous health problems, including allergies and asthma.

The simple solution to this is to reduce the number of vehicles on

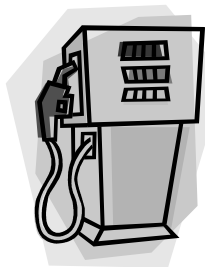
the road. Fortunately, we have many options and alternatives. Besides carpooling and taking public transportation (subways, buses, light rails, etc.), we can also walk and bike. The latter two, in addition to not emitting ANY pollutants at all, have the added advantage of providing us with some good ol' exercise.

So what are you waiting for? Get out there and get moving—but not in a car!



HOW CAN I HELP?

- Walk, bike or take public transportation instead of driving. It saves gas, reduces pollution AND is good exercise.
- If you must drive, try to carpool. Four people in one car is better than four people in four cars.



- When buying a car, make sure to look for one with a high fuel efficiency. Fuel efficiencies vary from about 20 MPG to about 50 MPG. The higher the

better. Consider buying a hybrid, which has a higher fuel efficiency and emits less harmful emissions than a conventional vehicle.

- Avoid rush hour traffic if possible. Sitting in bump-and-go traffic wastes time and fuel in addition to creating excess pollution.
- Live where you work; work where you live. The shorter the commute, the easier it is to use alternative transportation.
- Drive manual. Manual transmission vehicles usually have better mileage (and are supposedly more fun to drive!).

SOME QUICK FACTS:

- *The United States consumes about 17 million barrels of oil per day, of which nearly 2/3 is used for transportation.*
- *While the world's population doubled between 1950 and 1996, the number of cars increased tenfold.*
- *Automobile congestion in the United States alone accounts for \$100 billion in wasted fuel, lost productivity, and rising health costs. Still, analysts project that the world's fleet of cars will double in a mere 25 years.*
- *A car that gets 20 miles per gallon (mpg) emits approximately 50 tons of global-warming-inducing carbon dioxide over its lifetime, while a 40-mpg car emits only 25 tons.*
- *If 1 in 5 Americans used public transportation daily, carbon monoxide pollution would decrease by more than all the emissions from the entire chemical manufacturing industry and all metal processing plants in the U.S.*



Printed on reused paper