It’s an electrifying age for cars with cleaner, simpler technologies replacing expensive visits to the gas station. Electric vehicles (EVs) are cars powered by electricity stored in a rechargeable battery. Driving electric comes with a range of benefits: instant acceleration, a quiet drive, and zero tailpipe pollution. And since EVs are efficient and need minimal maintenance, they also save their owners money.

Many car manufacturers recognize the end of the combustible engine is on the horizon and are getting on board: BMW, Chevrolet, Ford, Honda, Hyundai, Toyota, Mercedes, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Subaru, Volkswagen, and Tesla all make EVs. Consumers have more size and style choices than ever, from minivans and SUVs to roadsters and sedans.

**EVs in Washington**

Washington has one of the highest percentages of electric vehicle sales in the nation, and is now close to its goal of registering 50,000 EVs statewide.

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**What’s the difference between a hybrid and an electric vehicle?**

- **Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV)**
  - all-electric
  - large battery
  - needs to be plugged in
  - example: Nissan LEAF

- **Plug-in Hybrid Vehicle (PHEV)**
  - electric with a gas backup
  - medium-sized battery
  - can be plugged in
  - example: Chrysler Pacifica

- **Hybrid Vehicle**
  - gas with electric assist
  - small battery
  - can’t be plugged in
  - example: Toyota Prius
**EVs Make Cents**

- Electric vehicles are 3-4 times more fuel efficient than gasoline cars. In fact, most EVs are able to achieve the equivalent of over 100 miles per gallon.
- Washington has some of the lowest electricity rates in the nation, which means it only costs 2-3 cents per mile to drive electric.
- EVs are cheaper to maintain. Fewer moving parts = less maintenance = less $$ (and time) at the auto mechanic.
- You can receive a federal tax credit of $2,500 - $7,500 for purchasing a new EV.
- Starting in August 2019, EVs that can travel at least 30 miles on battery power are not subject to Washington’s state sales and use tax. The tax exemption applies to new cars less than $45,000, up to the first $25,000. Used EVs less than $30,000 are also eligible, up to the first $15,000.

**EVs Are Convenient**

- Full charge = full tank. Leave the house each day ready to roll with a fully-charged battery.
- Newer all-electric cars can travel at least 100 miles on a single charge; some can go more than 250 miles!
- An ever-expanding network of charging stations makes driving EVs more convenient than ever. Our state has the fifth highest number of public charging stations in the nation – and more coming online each year.

**EVs Have Zero Tailpipe Pollution**

- EVs don’t even have tailpipes! They don’t produce any greenhouse gases or toxic air pollution. Compare that with a gasoline car, which produces 20 pounds of pollution per gallon burned.

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**Learn More**

**Electric vehicle information:**
- pluginamerica.org
- goelectricdrive.com

**Available electric vehicles:**
- plugincars.com
- afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/electric

**Charging stations**
- afdc.energy.gov/stations
- plugshare.com
- westcoastgreenhighway.com