Fuel Economy

Fuel Economy Factors
The following factors can lower your vehicle's fuel economy:

- Aggressive driving (hard acceleration and braking)
- Excessive idling, accelerating and braking in stop-and-go traffic
- Cold engine operation (engines are more efficient when warmed up)
- Driving with a heavy load or the air conditioner running
- Improperly inflated tires

Improving Fuel Economy

Vehicle Maintenance
A properly maintained vehicle maximizes fuel economy. Poor maintenance can significantly reduce fuel economy. Always maintain your vehicle according to the maintenance messages displayed on the information display (see Owner's Maintenance Checks on page 340).

Drive Efficiently

- Drive moderately — Rapid acceleration, abrupt cornering, and hard braking increase fuel consumption.
- Observe the speed limit — Aerodynamic drag has a big effect on fuel economy at speeds above 45 mph (75 km/h). Reduce your speed and you reduce the drag. Trailers, car top carriers, roof racks and bike racks are also big contributors to increased drag.
- Always drive in the highest gear possible — If your vehicle has a manual transmission, you can boost your fuel economy by up shifting as early as possible.
- Avoid excessive idling — Idling results in 0 miles per gallon (0 kms per liter).

- Use the recommended viscosity motor oil, displaying the API Certification Seal (see page 345).
- Maintain proper tire inflation — An underinflated tire increases "rolling resistance," which reduces fuel economy.
- Avoid carrying excess weight in your vehicle — It puts a heavier load on the engine, increasing fuel consumption.
- Keep your vehicle clean — In particular, a build-up of snow or mud on your vehicle's underside adds weight and rolling resistance. Frequent cleaning helps your fuel economy.