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 multi-information display (see Owner's Maintenance Checks on page 346). For example:

• Use the recommended viscosity motor oil, displaying the API Certification Seal (see page 349).
• 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.

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.
• Avoid excessive idling — Idling results in 0 miles per gallon (0 kms per liter).