

## Article for Legislator Publication or Web Site #2

### Celebrate Earth Day with Your Car

The (Name of Organization/Company) and the Car Care Council suggests five ways you and your vehicle can help protect the environment on Earth Day and everyday:

- **Drive Green** – How your drive has a lot to do with fuel economy. Avoid sudden starts and stops and go the speed limit. Jerky and aggressive driving decreases your miles per gallon. Minimize unnecessary miles by combining errands in one trip.
- **Get a Tune-Up** – Regular tune-ups can save four percent on the cost of gas. Replacing a faulty oxygen sensor can save up to 40 percent. Simply changing the car's air filter will help your car pollute less and can improve efficiency by 10 percent.
- **Lighten the Load** – Get the junk out of the trunk with the exception of emergency items such as a spare tire, flares and a first-aid kit. Extra items weigh the vehicle down and cause an increase in gas usage.
- **Tire Checks** – Two billion gallons of gas each year could be saved if the tires on every American's car were properly inflated as indicated in the owner's manual. Tires that are not properly inflated add rolling resistance, making the engine work harder and burn more fuel.
- **Gas Caps and Fill-Ups** – Check your gas cap. Vehicles with loose, damaged or missing gas caps cause 147 million gallons of gas to vaporize every year. Topping off your gas tank can also release harmful vapors into the environment.

More information is included in the popular digital Car Care Guide at [www.carcare.org/car-care-guide](http://www.carcare.org/car-care-guide).