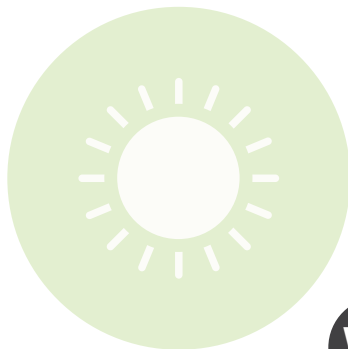


CLEAN AIR STARTS AT THE NOZZLE

tips to save money & our air

Making small changes in how you do something as simple as pumping gas into your vehicle, can have a major impact on your wallet and our environment! Check out these tips that can help keep our skies blue!



Gasoline is released, when topping off at the pump, and is harmful to your health. These vapors contain many harmful toxic compounds, including benzene, a known carcinogen. These compounds also contribute to the formation of harmful ozone and smog.

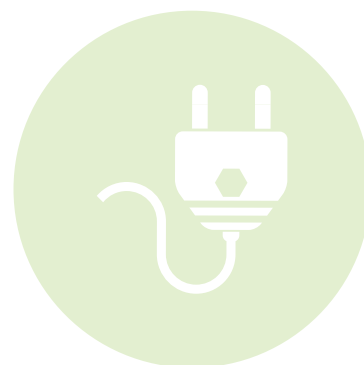
What is topping off? When you are refueling your vehicle and the nozzle automatically clicks off, that means your tank is full. Getting those last couple of “clicks” of fuel is considered “topping off.”

Don't top off - when you top off, gas goes back into the hose; this costs you money, increases your chance of spillage and pollutes our environment. By topping off, you have just increased your price per gallon by paying for something you're not even using.



Every Drop Matters...Did you know? Spilling a “shot glass” (one ounce) of gasoline produces the same volatile emissions as driving a car 56 miles?

Other simple things you can do to reduce air pollution include: refueling your car in the evening, not idling your vehicle, and combining errands into a single trip. It all adds up for cleaner air. See the back page for more tips!



For more information on air toxics and other ways you can help visit SLOCleanAir.org.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The pump shut off, but I know my tank can hold more gas. Shouldn't I keep pumping?

No, You could damage the vapor recovery system in your car which will cause your check engine light to come on, and cause more problems. If you really think the pump shut off too soon, make sure to mention that to the station attendant and try a different pump.

I picked up the nozzle and gas spilled out. What should I do?

If it's substantial, call the attendant. It's likely that someone before you topped off a tank and caused this problem for you, and the damage is done. The nozzle may still be able to function properly, but if you notice any more problems, tell an attendant at the station, and use a different pump.

I started to fill my tank and there's a strong smell of gasoline. What should I do?

Tell an attendant at the station, and report a problem to the SLO County APCD at 805-781-5912. You can also call the California Air Resources Board toll free at 800-952-5588.

How can I reduce my risk of breathing gas vapors at the station?

Use the nozzle's hold-open latch to pump the gas continuously, and stand upwind (but stand close enough to monitor it). Always remember to remove the nozzle before driving away - and be sure to tighten your gas cap.

TIPS TO HELP YOU SAVE AT THE PUMP

Avoid Idling

Idling is harmful to the environment as it contributes to air pollution, climate change and increases fuel costs. Air quality decreases which results in a negative impact on both the health of the drivers and the public. Take the pledge to not idle your vehicles on the Central Coast Clean Cities Coalition website: <http://www.c-5.org/noidling>

Less is more

Don't carry around extra items in your car that you don't need. For every 100 pounds of weight in your car, fuel economy decreases by 1 - 2%.

Fill up your tank early in the morning or at night

Gas expands with heat, so if you fill up when it is hot there is expansion and additional fumes. It's smarter to refuel in cooler temperatures, you actually get more fuel for your dollar.

Mind your manners

Aggressive driving and excess braking and fast acceleration can cause your fuel efficiency to decrease. The key to getting better mileage is moderating your velocity.

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Air Pollution Control District
San Luis Obispo County



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