

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE POLICY
NOVEMBER 8, 2011

POLICY STATEMENT:

In an effort to reduce the Town of Townsend's fuel consumption and energy costs the Board of Selectmen hereby adopts a policy to purchase only fuel efficient vehicles whenever feasible.

PURPOSE:

This policy establishes a requirement that the Town of Townsend purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

DEFINITIONS

Combined city and highway MPG (EPA Combined fuel economy): Combined Fuel Economy means the fuel economy from driving a combination of 43% city and 57% highway miles and is calculated as follows:

$$=1/((0.43/City\ MPG)+(0.57/highway\ MPG))$$

Drive System: The manner in which mechanical power is directly transmitted from the drive shaft to the wheels. The following codes are used in the drive field:

- AWD = All Wheel Drive: four-wheel drive automatically controlled by the vehicle powertrain system
- 4WD = 4-Wheel Drive: driver selectable four-wheel drive with 2-wheel drive option
- 2WD = 2-Wheel Drive

Heavy-duty vehicle: A vehicle with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 8,500 pounds.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all departments of the Town of Townsend with exemptions as noted.

GUIDELINES

- All departments shall purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable. Improving fuel efficiency will, at all times, be considered in replacing vehicles.
- The Town of Townsend will maintain and update annually a vehicle inventory for all vehicles and a plan for replacing the vehicles subject to this policy with vehicles that meet the fuel efficiency ratings below.
- Based on the most recently published US Environmental Protection Agency data on fuel efficient vehicles, vehicles are to have a combined city and highway MPG no less than the following:
 - 2 wheel drive car: 29 MPG
 - 4 wheel drive car: 24 MPG
 - 2 wheel drive small pick-up truck: 20 MPG

- 4 wheel drive small pick-up truck: 18 MPG
- 2 wheel drive standard pick-up truck: 17 MPG
- 4 wheel drive standard pick-up truck: 16 MPG

Exemptions

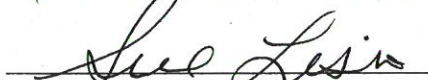
- Heavy-duty vehicles such as fire-trucks, ambulances, and public works trucks are exempt from this criterion.
- Police cruisers, passenger vans, and cargo vans are exempt from this criterion as fuel efficient models are not available. However, the Town commits to purchasing fuel efficient cruisers, passenger vans, and cargo vans when they become commercially available.
- Police and fire department administrative vehicles are not exempt and must meet the fuel efficiency requirements.

QUESTIONS / ENFORCEMENT

All inquiries should be directed to the Town Administrator. This policy is enforced by the Town Administrator and/or their designee(s).

TOWNSEND BOARD OF SELECTMEN


Robert Plamondon, Chairman


Sue Lisio, Vice Chair


Nicholas Thalheimer, Clerk