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Sustainable Transportation



Sustainable transportation is WSDOT's approach for an adaptable, integrated, multimodal statewide transportation system that supports Washington's economy, preserves the environment and enhances our communities. It's a strategically managed and operated system that meets present needs without compromising the future.

It's in everything we do

Emissions from transportation-related activities account for nearly half of the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Washington. This is one reason why we consider sustainability in all that we do. Our practices make good environmental sense and good economic sense for Washington. Our agency uses a strategic and balanced approach to conserve energy and fuels while reducing greenhouse gas emission from the transportation sector.

Making transportation sustainable

WSDOT is making transportation more sustainable in many ways. We're adjusting the way work and use energy in daily operations. We're designing highways that work [best for communities](#), integrating modes — [transit](#), [ridesharing](#), [bicycling](#) and [walking](#) — into projects and using techniques that reduce [pollutants](#). Our maintenance crews use precision [snow and ice removal](#) methods to keep drivers safe while using the minimum amount of salt necessary.

Technology

New technology and innovation at WSDOT provide a more efficient, reliable and sustainable transportation system. We conserve fuel and energy, minimize carbon emissions and protect our natural environment, all while keeping people and goods moving smoothly.

Efficiency

WSDOT is making highways more efficient by [smoothing traffic flow](#) through busy choke points. We're using fewer building [materials](#) by recycling and [extending the lifespan](#) of roads and bridges.

Shrinking carbon footprints

This approach helps citizens and businesses reduce their carbon footprint in new ways, from expanding transit services and [ridesharing opportunities](#) to partnering to build support infrastructure along I-5 for [electric and other alternative-fuel vehicles](#).

For more information

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What's new?

- Gov. Inslee convenes Carbon Emissions Task Force and lays out a [new series of steps](#), including "clean transportation," to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and advance clean energy technology.
- Gov. Inslee's [Executive Order 14-02](#) targets greenhouse gas by extending [telework](#) and [flex scheduling](#) programs to all state agencies
- Report to the Governor: [Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Washington State Government Second Biennial Progress Report](#)

Sustainability in Motion



Ain't easy being green? Really? You don't know WSDOT's fleet

WSDOT is continuing down the path to sustainability with its fleet of vehicles and equipment. The fleet recently became a finalist among the 50 most sustainable and efficient government fleets in North America. In fact, WSDOT was the only state DOT fleet to make the list for the [2014 Leading Fleets](#).

The awards, sponsored by Ford Motor Company and Property Room, will be presented next month in San Diego. In its first year, the Leading Fleets program recognizes government fleet operations in North America for leadership, efficiency, long-term planning and overcoming challenges.

WSDOT became a finalist for sustainably managing a fleet that runs on a mix of alternative fuels, including electricity, biodiesel and propane. The fleet was



evaluated for innovation in reducing fuel consumption and emissions, increasing vehicle efficiency, using sustainable and biodegradable products and recycling. It's one of the largest and most diverse to be recognized at the awards.

It's the latest in a series of honors for our fleet's transition to alternative fuels, such as electricity and propane. WSDOT also recently ranked 12th among the 2014 100 Best Fleets in North America – the agency's highest ranking on this list in years. The award highlights WSDOT's commitment to quality fleet services based on specific criteria, including technology and environmental stewardship.

In recent weeks our Fleet Operations also became the first state agency in the country to reach an agreement with Nissan to lease its all-electric, plug-in Leaf cars.

WSDOT is leasing five new Leaf EVs for use at offices from Shoreline to Vancouver. According to WSDOT Fleet Administrator Greg Hansen, two have arrived at Northwest Region headquarters in Shoreline, and one new Leaf each is available at Headquarters in Olympia, Olympic Region in Tumwater and Southwest Region in Vancouver. Charging stations are being installed at each location. Earlier this year Fleet Operations purchased the first Washington state-owned, zero-emission plug-in EV. It's in use at Headquarters.

WSDOT's land and water fleets also passed a million-gallon milestone for biodiesel in 2013. It was the first year our agency purchased more than 1 million gallons of emissions-cutting biodiesel to fuel ferries, trucks and equipment.

We're taking a closer look at sustainability and how it's showing up in everything we do. If you have a story idea for us, we'd love to hear it. Send your ideas to Noel.Brady@wsdot.wa.gov.

Recent features:

- [Secretary turns over a new LEAF for WSDOT](#)
- [LED highway lighting a bright idea](#)
- [Governor's awards honor innovators in traffic reduction](#)
- [Telework pilot brings home sustainable practice](#)
- [Halfway to 24/7 HOV lanes Seattle to Bellevue](#)
- [Roundabout benefits come full circle](#)
- [Viable ideas for viaduct recycling](#)
- [WSDOT brings Quick Charge for electric vehicles to Capitol Campus](#)
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