



FUEL EFFICIENCY VEHICLE POLICY

Effective Date	
Revisions	
Town Council Approval Date	October 25, 2021
School Superintendent Approval Date	
Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Approval Date	

DEFINITIONS

Combined city and highway MPG (EPA Combined fuel economy): Combined Fuel Economy means the fuel economy from driving a combination of 55 percent city and 45 Percent highway miles and is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Combined City and Highway MPG} = \frac{1}{(0.45 \text{ CityMPG}) + (0.55 \text{ HighwayMPG})}$$

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: 4 -wheel drive automatically controlled by the vehicle power train system
- 4WD = 4-Wheel Drive: driver selectable 4-wheel drive with 2-wheel drive option
- 2WD = 2-Wheel Drive

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

POLICY STATEMENT

In an effort to reduce the Town of Wakefield's fuel consumption and energy costs the Wakefield Town Council hereby adopts a policy to purchase only fuel efficient vehicles to meet this goal.

PURPOSE

To establish a requirement that the Town of Wakefield purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal/school use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the Town of Wakefield. It applies to road-worthy passenger vehicles, pick up and utility trucks, and SUVs. It does not apply to specialized equipment or off-road vehicles.

GUIDELINES

All departments/divisions shall purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

The Town of Wakefield will maintain an annual vehicle inventory for ALL vehicles and a plan for replacing any non-exempt vehicles with vehicles that meet, at a minimum, the fuel efficiency ratings contained in the most recent guidance for Criterion 4 published by the MA Department of Energy Resources' Green Communities Division.

It is the responsibility of the Town of Wakefield to check the Green Communities Division's Guidance for Criterion 4 for updates prior to ordering replacement vehicles.

EXEMPTIONS

Heavy-duty vehicles are exempt from this policy. Examples of heavy-duty vehicles include fire-trucks, ambulances, and some public works trucks that meet the definition of heavy-duty vehicle included within this policy.

As of the adoption date above, police cruisers are exempt from this policy due to lack of widespread availability. However, we commit to purchasing fuel efficient police cruisers, when they become commercially available. Police and fire department administrative vehicles are NOT exempt and must meet fuel efficiency requirements outlined within this policy.

INVENTORY

The following information shall be included in a vehicle inventory list and said list shall be updated on an annual basis and provided to the Green Communities Division:

- Vehicle Make & Model
- Vehicle Year
- Year and Month Purchased
- Drive System (2 WD, 4WD or AWD)
- Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) is greater than 8,500 LBS
- Vehicles Policy Status (Exempt / Non-Exempt)
- MPG Rating (EPA combined MPG estimates or actual combined MPG)
- Vehicle Function.

Vehicle Inventory List is included as Attachment "A" to this policy.

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PLAN

All non-exempt vehicles shall be replaced with fuel efficient vehicles that adhere to the most recent Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance. Vehicles shall be replaced when they are no longer operable and will not be recycled from one municipal department to another unless the recycled replacement is more efficient than the vehicle it is replacing. In addition, when replacing exempt vehicles, the function of the vehicle will be reviewed for potential replacement with a more fuel efficient vehicle, including a fuel efficient non-exempt vehicle.

The Town of Wakefield will review on an annual basis the Vehicle Inventory, along with the Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance, to plan for new acquisitions as part of planning for the new fiscal year budget.

QUESTIONS / ENFORCEMENT

All inquiries regarding the purchase of fuel efficient vehicles should be directed to the Director Public Works and/or his/her designee(s).

This policy is enforced by the Wakefield Town Administrator and/or his/her designee(s).
