

Best 'green' vehicles announced

The Environmental Transport Association has named the Toyota Yaris Green Car of the Year 2008.

The least green car is the Dodge SRT-10 Viper sports car. The announcements come ahead of the start of Green Transport Week (June 14-22).

The Environmental Transport Association has looked at over 1300 models of car currently on sale in Britain and examined their power, emissions, fuel efficiency and even the amount of noise they produce to create the definitive guide to buying the greenest vehicle.

The Car Buyers' Guide was first published by the ETA in 1992 in response to requests from its growing membership and has since become the environmental benchmark for the car industry and the public, championing the greenest cars in

Britain.

The results are as follows:

Overall Winner: Toyota Yaris

Overall worst: Dodge SRT-10

Category Winners

Supermini: Toyota Yaris

Small Family: Honda Civic Hybrid

Small MPV: Renault Modus

City: Citroen C1

Large Family: BMW 3 Series 320d Saloon

Sports: Vauxhall Tigra, MY2008 2-door Convertible

MPV: Peugeot 207 SW Outdoor

Executive: BMW 5 Series 520d Saloon

Off road: Toyota RAV4

Luxury: JAGUAR XJ 2.7L Diesel Saloon

A full list of best and worst cars are available at <http://www.greencarawards.co.uk>



The Environmental Transport Association named the Toyota Yaris Green Car of the Year 2008 and the Dodge Viper the Worst.

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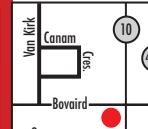
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The purpose of filtration is contaminant control. Modern engines with their closer tolerances, increased working speeds and higher operating temperatures need more protection than engines of the past.

Filtering intake air is critical as foreign particles can damage components, but a U.S. study estimates replacing a clogged air filter can also improve fuel economy by 10%. That translates into 8.5 cents on an 85 cent litre of fuel. Filter change intervals are specified in your owner's manual.

Fuel filters became increasingly important with the adoption of fuel injection as they keep debris, rust flakes, dirt etc. from affecting the ultra-close-tolerance involved. They must be replaced at the intervals specified and because in some vehicles these filters operate at high fuel pressures, replacement is best left to the pros.

Oil filters play a vital role by keeping carbon, metal etc., from circulating in your engines lubricating oil and scoring bearings and other surfaces. Like all filters they have a useful lifespan. Many vehicle manufacturers call for oil and filter changes on two service schedules, one for "normal" driving conditions and the other for "severe." A typical vehicle might require changes under ideal conditions at 12,000km and severe at 5,000km.

Studies show most people define their driving as normal, but about 80% of vehicles are in fact driven under severe conditions, defined as stop-and-go traffic, short trips, dusty, lengthy idling and below 10 degree temperatures.

Another element has been added recently with the advent of oil life monitoring systems that can determine when you need to change the oil and filter. Car Care Canada suggests changing both based on what the manufacturers recommend.

Cabin air filters began to appear in the mid-1980s and many vehicles now have these systems that keep pollen, spores, dust, soot as well as some toxic gases and odors from entering the cabin. They must be changed at the specified intervals or the flow of fresh air into the car will be reduced, which could have an affect on passengers, as well as making defogging the windshield a problem.

—Car Care Canada