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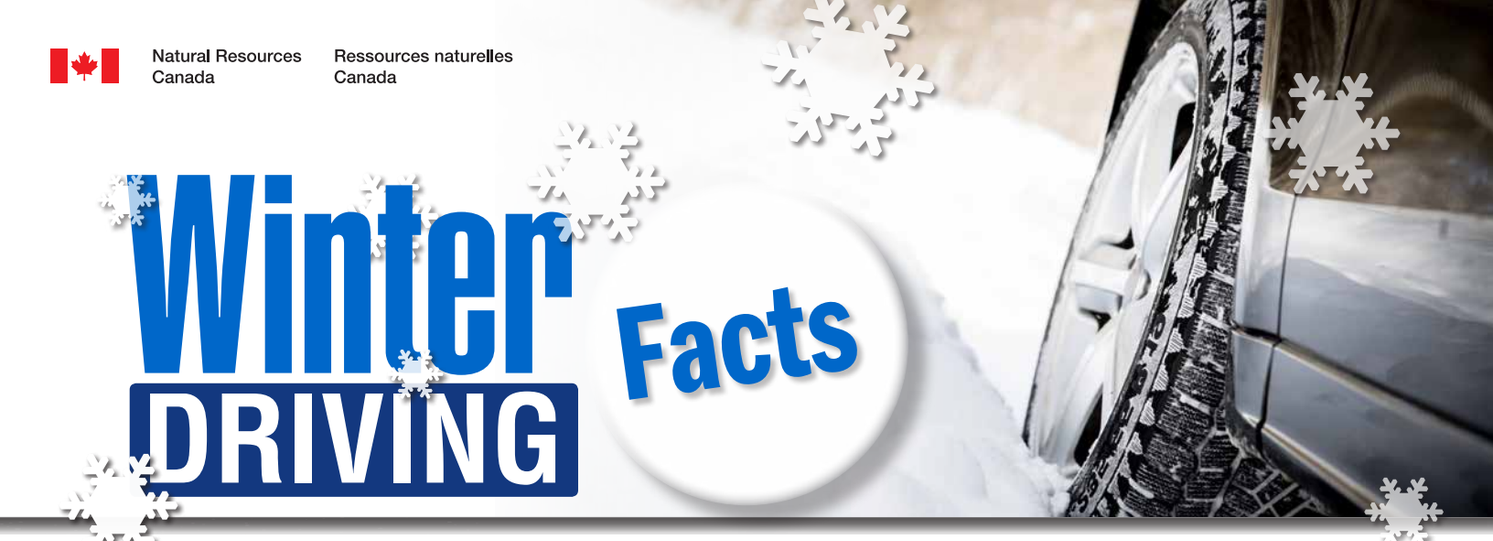
Winter DRIVING Facts



To mazimize your vehicle's fuel consumption, follow the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule and practice NRCan's fuel-efficient driving techniques.

Cold weather causes higher fuel consumption.

24°C

7°C

A drop in temperature

12 to 28% increase fuel consumption

A drop in **temperature** from **24°C** to **7°C** can increase **fuel consumption** on urban commutes by **12** to **28%.**

Aerodynamic resistance is greater in the winter.

Winter air is 11% denser than summer air.

Wind resistance

1.3% increase highway fuel consumption

Cold, dry winter air is 11% denser than warm, humid summer air, which increases wind resistance. Consequently, **highway fuel consumption increases by approximately 1.3%.**

Winter driving taxes the vehicle's electrical system.

Electrical loads are higher in cold weather

The vehicle's electrical loads are normally higher in cold weather due to greater demands from heating, defrosting, and other accessories drawing more power from the engine which increases energy use.

Winter gas normally has lower energy density.

1 L

Winter gas has 1.5 to 3% less energy

1 L

than summer gas

Gasoline composition is seasonally and geographically adjusted based on historical temperature data. A litre of **winter gas has less energy than a litre of summer gas**, typically in the range of **1.5 to 3%**. Diesel fuel is affected similarly.

Winter weather creates difficult driving conditions.

Winter conditions

7 to 35% increase in fuel consumption

Roads are rougher in the winter, with increased asphalt deterioration and a mix of snow, ice, slush, water, salt, gravel and sand. The engine works harder to offset the increased rolling resistance. Data shows that **fuel consumption can increase 7 to 35% because of poor road conditions**.

February 2016

Canada