

# Change your driving habits

The other night I was going through my e-mail and as I was deleting any unwanted mail, you know the ones saying I have millions in a bank account in a third-world country, and for only a thousand dollars, or a credit card number they will send me the money, this one caught my attention – “Get 50 miles more per tank.” So I clicked on it and it was a gentleman from New York and it didn’t ask for any money. I just had to read on. Maybe I should forward it to the car manufacturers so it could help the economy. Let’s call this gentleman, “Miles.” Miles claims all you have to do is change your driving habits. Here is a list of Miles new driving habits, followed by my opinion:

#1. Drive 10-15 mph under the speed limit.

Opinion, not safe. Driving under the limit bottles up traffic and makes other drivers mad.

#2. Put your transmission in neutral when going down a hill.

Opinion, not safe. Your vehicle will coast faster, but your vehicle’s engine also acts like a brake when in drive and your foot is off the gas pedal.

#3. When driving on interstates, draft behind a large truck. This creates a suction and pulls your vehicle along with it.

Opinion, not safe. I think Miles watches too much NASCAR racing. When that tractor trailer makes a sudden stop, you are now part of the trailer and what do you think the drivers reaction will be?

#4. Over inflate your tires 10-15psi of more air. This will create less rolling resistance.

Opinion, not safe. This causes premature tire wear and that’s not good for safety and your wallet, but the tire manufacturer will love you.

#5. Turn your engine off when sitting at a red light, less fuel will be used.

Opinion, not safe. Besides, it puts more wear on your battery and starter.

#6. Don’t use your vehicle’s air conditioning, it robs power and fuel.

Opinion, yes, it takes a little

fuel and power, but it does make you feel comfortable.

If Miles says it is this easy to save fuel, then somebody better call all the manufacturers to tell them they are wasting millions of dollars on research.

I am told there is a website where people posts things on how they save on fuel, cut cost on electric, food, clothing and many other things, but when it comes to your vehicle, or even your home, don’t do anything that is stupid or dangerous. Maybe somebody should tell Miles that good maintenance and driving habits help good fuel mileage.

If you have any questions about this article, or your vehicle maintenance you can call Dave’s Auto Service, Inc. at 610-367-1844 located at 925 W. Phila. Ave., Boyertown for fast and reliable service.