

THE POWER OUTLET

MAY 2022 NEWSLETTER of DRIVE ELECTRIC WASHINGTON



*A monthly update about
electric vehicle activities
around the State of
Washington*

Drive Electric Washington is a collaboration of groups throughout the State of Washington working together to accelerate the adoption of plug-in electric vehicles. The all-volunteer non-profit was founded by electric vehicle advocates in 2017 and now is focusing on outreach to volunteer electric transportation advocates across the state to coordinate and share efforts among groups. We would like to invite you to join this effort and keep informed by contributing to and sharing this free monthly newsletter.

DEWA has a [Facebook](#) page, too! Please like and follow us for up-to-the-minute updates.

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EV NEWS

The electric vehicle pinch

(Excerpt from the Seattle Times, May 9, 2022)

By Hal Bernton and Manuel Villa

Gas prices are surging as automobile manufacturers are launching a major shift to electric vehicles. In the Puget Sound region, electric car dealers report that demand for the vehicles far outstrips available supplies, which have been severely crimped by disruptions of the supply chain.

Tommy Thoensen, general manager of Lee Johnson Nissan of Kirkland, said all electric Leafs have been presold before they arrive at the dealership. Nissan has not kept up with demand as it becomes increasingly difficult to get parts out of China, he said. “We have 15 coming in this month, all sold. Only one coming in June and one coming in July,” Thoensen said. “If I could get an unlimited supply, I could probably sell 60 a month.”

In Washington, the fuel for the vehicles is produced by utilities that operate under very significant price constraints. More than half the state’s power is produced by public utilities, such as Seattle City Light. They are required to be based on the actual costs of providing power, including investments in operations, capital improvement and debt service.

Electricity also is produced by regulated private utilities such as Puget Sound Energy. These utilities must submit their rates for approval to the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission, which is charged by the Legislature to ensure customers get “reasonable rates” and companies earn a fair profit.

The prices at fast-charging stations, such as those operated by Tesla or Electrify America, do not fall under state regulation. But so long as electric car owners charge at their home or at a charging station installed by a utility, the prices reflect those of a nonprofit or regulated utility.

The federal Energy Department calculates the cost of an “eGallon,” comparing the average cost of fueling an electric vehicle in Washington to that of a similar gas-powered vehicle. The Washington eGallon cost, last updated in March 2021, was 81 cents compared with a national average eGallon cost of \$1.16.

Tonia Buell, a Washington state Department of Transportation official helping to develop a West Coast network of fast-charging stations, said electric vehicles also have lower maintenance costs.

“It’s a great time to buy an electric car — if you can find one,” Buell said.

SPOTLIGHT

Summer EV Travel – DEWA's Chad Schwitters recently got started on the summer travel season with his new Safari Condo Alto A2124 trailer. They chose the model for its lighter weight and aerodynamics that would make it more efficient towing with an EV. After a long wait for the order, the trailer finally arrived in December. The Schwitters' used their 2017 Model X 100D, Silver Belle, to tow the new trailer. This photo was



taken at the campground at Deception Pass State Park earlier this month. As most EV owners know, towing large loads can reduce the efficiency and range of the vehicle significantly. Chad reported that on this trip, they use about 600 watt hours per mile (wh/mi), but they expect it can be improved to about 500wh/mi in warmer weather using less cabin heat. That is still better than the experiences of some drivers with less-aerodynamic trailers, who report numbers in the 750wh/mi range. It is a good idea to plan charging stops ahead of time to account for range loss, but it still is a lot more efficient, lower cost and less polluting that traveling and camping with an ICE vehicle. Enjoy an eco-friendly summer!

EVENTS



Earth Day event in Chelan

Earth Day Events in April – Here are a few photos from events around the state celebrating Earth Day 2022 and the transition to electric vehicles to protect the Earth from pollution and the effects of climate change from burning fossil fuels.



Greenbridge in Seattle



Mill Creek



Palouse



Olympia

Electric trucks were popular at the annual Issaquah Spring EV show on May 8, 2022.



COMING THIS YEAR

Greenwood Car Show – Saturday, June 25, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Greenwood Avenue North in Seattle. The Seattle Electric Vehicle Association will host an electric vehicle section. Learn more and sign up [here](#).

National Roadmap Conference – June 29-30, Portland, presented by Forth Mobility. Learn more and register [here](#).

Electrify Expo – July 23-24, Husky Stadium, Seattle. Learn more and get tickets [here](#).

Green Transportation Summit and Expo – “Accelerate to Zero.” Aug. 16-18, Greater Tacoma Convention Center. Learn more and register [here](#).

Steilacoom Drive Electric Festival – Saturday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., downtown Steilacoom 1717 Lafayette St. Learn more and register [here](#).

National Drive Electric Week – Sept. 23-Oct. 2. Presented by Plug-In America. Start planning your outreach events today! Learn more and sign up [here](#).

Sequim Drive Electric Week Event – Sept. 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sequim. Test drive electric cars and talk to owners. There will also be demonstrations on other climate-friendly items such as electric garden tools and electric solar-powered generators. Learn more and register [here](#).

CHARGING NEWS

Curbside charging proposed in Seattle – Seattle City Light is launching a service that will install public Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) chargers at curbside locations throughout the city of Seattle. City Light is offering this service to provide near-home EV charging for residents who cannot access off-street parking to charge their vehicles. Seattle City Light will pay for all costs related to the purchase and installation of the chargers. There is no cost to the resident or property owner to request or install a public curbside Level 2 EV charger. Seattle City Light wants public comments on this proposed service! Feedback will be used to help shape the design of this new service so it best meets the needs of customers and communities. Please provide your feedback by filling out the online [survey](#). Responses are due by Friday, May 27 at 11:59 p.m.

New Installation in Lacey - The Panorama retirement community has recently completed installation of 10 Level 2 (240V) EV charging stations on its Lacey campus. The stations are located near two of the apartment buildings on campus, offering residents convenient charging access.



Panorama parking lot charging in Lacey

CLUB NEWS

The Seattle Electric Vehicle Association meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at the Church of the Nazarene, 4401 2nd Ave. NE in Seattle's Wallingford neighborhood. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 14. All are invited! See more at SeattleEVA.org.

Please share your club news as well as your personal journey into the world of electric driving, along with photos. DEWA would like to spotlight profiles of EV pioneers on our website and social media, as well as sharing in our newsletter. Please send your stories and photos to greamer@driveelectricwa.org.

DONATE

Please support DEWA and its outreach and advocacy activities with a donation. Your financial donation will help us reach more policymakers, funders and drivers statewide to advocate electric mobility, and will support expansion of our statewide, online resources. Drive Electric Washington is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and any contribution you make is fully tax-deductible. Here are three ways you can help:

1. NEW – Make a one-time online donation through PayPal [here](#):
2. When you shop on Amazon, use [smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and choose Drive Electric Washington for your charitable contribution. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price to DEWA.
3. You also can make a direct contribution by check. The check should be made out to DEWA and mailed to our DEWA Treasurer at: 6021 32nd Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115-7230.

RESOURCES

DEWA aims to maintain a comprehensive list of the EV advocacy efforts ongoing in Washington, so we count on you to keep our lists and our website updated with the most current information. Following are the organizations and efforts we have compiled so far in Washington that have a presence online and on social media:

Websites:

- Seattle Electric Vehicle Association - SeattleEVA.org
- Plug-In America - PlugInAmerica.org
- Electric Auto Association - ElectricAuto.org
- Forth - ForthMobility.org
- Plugshare - Plugshare.com
- National Drive Electric Week - DriveElectricWeek.org
- Drive Electric Earth Day - DriveElectricEarthDay.org
- Plug In North Central Washington - PlugInNCW.com
- Coltura – Coltura.org
- Thurston Climate Action Team - ThurstonClimateAction.org
- Tesla Owners of Washington - TeslaOwnersWA.org

Social Media:

- [Northwest Tesla Owners](#)
- [Seattle Nissan Leaf Owners](#)
- [Seattle Tesla Model 3 Owners](#)
- [Seattle Electric Vehicle Association](#)
- [Seattle Tesla Model Y Owners](#)
- [Pierce County Electric Vehicle Information Exchange](#)
- [Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Tesla Club](#)
- [Inland NW Tesla Owners Group](#)
- [PNW Tesla](#)
- [Central Washington University EV Club](#)
- [Seattle Chevy Bolt/Bolt EUV Owners](#)
- [San Juan Islands Electric Vehicles](#)
- [Mid-Columbia Electric Vehicle Association](#)

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