

NORTH BAY CHAPTER



Electric Auto Association
Promoting Electric Vehicles Since 1967

NOVEMBER 2012 EDITION

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UPCOMING NBEAA MEETINGS

NOVEMBER NBEAA Meeting

Saturday, November 10th, 10 AM – Noon; the Blue Sky Center, 6791 Sebastopol Ave, Sebastopol
Using photovoltaics to supply energy for your EV and home by Jason Dunham of Solar Sonoma County

FUTURE NBEAA MEETINGS

FUTURE MEETINGS:

December 8th: Tesla Model S Show & Tell by Alan Soule

January 12th: Sonoma County's contribution to developing EV standards for charging and signage for California by Dave Head, the County Transportation Manager

UPCOMING EV EVENTS:

The City of Santa Rosa is hosting a conference to promote strategies in reducing greenhouse gases in Sonoma County. The conference is entitled "Sonoma County's Strategies for Sustainability". There will be workshops that people from business, government and the community will present. The conference will take place on November 13th from 8AM until 3PM at the City of Santa Rosa's Utilities Field Office: 35 Stony Point Rd in Santa Rosa. There is a \$55 fee to attend. For more information and to register for the conference, click on this link:

<http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/departments/utilities/Projects/Pages/SonomaCountyStrategiesforSustainability.aspx>

EV NEWS

Hansel Ford Offers \$299.00 Monthly Lease Cost for eFocus

Hansel Ford, in Santa Rosa, is offering to lease 6 eFocuses for \$299.00 per month to compete with the lease program for the Nissan LEAF. The eFocus lease has \$0 downpayment and has a duration of 36 months. 10,500 miles per year are covered under the lease with a \$.20 per mile charge if you exceed 10,500 miles per year. Per my calculations, if you drove the eFocus 10,500 miles per year, your fuel would cost about \$22.00 per month (using PG&E's new EV rates). If you were to have a 36 month lease for a comparable gas Focus, your lease payments would be \$250.00 per month, with an \$845.00 downpayment and your fuel cost would be \$108.00 per month, depending on the cost of gasoline (I used \$4.20). Thus, with fuel, the eFocus would cost you about \$321.00 per month while the gas Focus would cost you about \$358.00, **a savings of \$37.00 per month by driving the eFocus**. This is a savings of \$1,332.00 over the 36 months of the lease and you don't have the \$845.00 downpayment that is required for the gas Focus.

Total Cost of Ownership Calculator

The Feds have a handy online calculator that compares the total cost of ownership for all types of automobiles, including EVs. Additionally, you can compare the total cost of ownership for two cars that you are curious about. Use this link to access the calculator: <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/calc/>. As far as I can tell, the cost does not include government rebates or tax credits for EVs so you will have to factor those in on your own.

What to do if you have been "ICEd"??!!

Probably every EV driver has, at least once, driven up to a charging station only to find that a gas car is parked in the space for the charging station. This called being "ICEd" (for internal combustion engine). It is very frustrating thing to have happen to you, especially if you really need a charge. Here are a couple of ways to deal with being ICD. Blink, the charging organization, has posted on their website three different, printable notices that you can stick under windshield wiper of the offending vehicle. They range from being a polite notification to being very blunt about how you feel. I have attached the pdf file for your review and/or use. My editorial comment is that I suggest you use the middle one that merely informs the gas driver that he or she is improperly parked in an EV parking spot. If the gas driver didn't realize that they were improperly parked then this is a courteous way to inform them. If they knew that they were improperly parked, then getting belligerent won't do any good.

Dave Head Working with the State on EV Guidelines

Dave Head, the County Transportation Manager, is working with Barbara Lee, the Director of the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution control District, on the "Governor's Workgroup for EV Infrastructure". They are gathering guidelines and policies from throughout the State and will draft State guidelines for charger installation. Once the guidelines are written, they will be incorporated into the California Codes. They are also recommending EV related signs to the California Traffic Control Committee to get approval for standard signs for both highway and charger locations. Dave will present the details of his work with the State at our January meeting .

EV Car Sharing Program is Tested in Paris

A private company is carrying out a 2 month test of car sharing using EVs in Paris. If the tests are successful, Parisians will be able to subscribe to the program called "Autolib" for approximately \$200 per year and use the small EVs in the car sharing program. The cars being used in the test program are little four-seaters, called "Bluecar". The cars are fully electric and have a top speed of 80 mph and range of 150 miles. The program sounds a lot like the zipcar program that exists in several cities, including San Francisco, except that all of the vehicles will be EVs. To read more about Autolib click on the following link: <http://www.france24.com/en/20110930-paris-launches-autolib-bluecar-bollere-all-electric-car-hire-scheme-velib>

CalCars is organizing EV test drives for prospective buyers:

This is a repeat of an article from last month, but I think that it is worth repeating and encouraging you to participate in this program based on the success of National Plug In Day.

Now that there are several factory EVs available to purchase or lease and there more and more charging stations are being installed, the key to the success of electric vehicles is getting people to buy them. CalCars, an EV advocacy group, is organizing a program called Driving Electric where people who are thinking about buying or leasing an EV can drive one that is owned by an EV advocate that is registered in the program. It is felt that prospective buyers would trust that endorsements of a regular person who has been driving an EV more than an advertisement or a salesman. You can get more information at this website: www.drivingelectric.org

UPDATE ON NEW CHARGING STATIONS IN THE NORTH BAY

Not yet installed, but soon??:

- (3) Level II J1772) at the Cinema in Sebastopol (Chargepoint)
- (2) Level II (J1772) in Rohnert Park (Chargepoint)

Still to come:

County installed chargers in Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Windsor. After these are up and running, chargers are planned for Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Guerneville, Doran Park and maybe Sea Ranch.

Note: The City of Santa Rosa charging stations are now pay stations and require a Chargepoint card.