

Some Oregon Vehicle Fees Will be Based on MPG Starting in 2020

New Oregon vehicle registration, title, and trip permit fees will take effect January 1, 2020, as part of "Keep Oregon Moving," the biggest transportation investment in state history.

Under this transportation funding package the Oregon Legislature passed in 2017, passenger vehicle registration fees will be based largely on the vehicle's fuel efficiency rating. Drivers of more efficient vehicles will pay more to register and renew their tags so they contribute more for use of the roads. That's because these drivers are contributing much less (or nothing) in fuels tax while driving just as much.

Drivers of electric vehicles and passenger cars that get 40 miles per gallon or better will have a choice. They can pay a full fee for two or four years up front, or they can pay a lower fee and a monthly per-mile charge for miles driven in Oregon if they join OReGO.

Oregon residents with vehicle tags expiring on or after January 1, 2020, will see these new fees in their renewal reminders starting this month. If your vehicle's tags expire after December 31, 2019, the new fee will apply even if you pay early. Registration fees are based on the vehicle registration renewal date, not the date that the fee is paid.

Here is a summary of the new fees for passenger vehicles (new vehicles are registered for four years at first, then every two years):

Most passenger vehicles		
Fuel economy	Four years	Two years
0-19 mpg	\$244	\$122
20-39 mpg	\$264	\$132

High-mileage passenger vehicles		
Fuel economy	Four years	Two years
40+ mpg NOT in OReGO	\$304	\$152
40+ mpg enrolled in OReGO	\$172	\$86
Electric NOT in OReGO	\$612	\$306
Electric enrolled in OReGO	\$172	\$86

Drivers can compare what they would pay in OReGO versus what they currently pay in gas tax by plugging their car's mpg rating and the typical number of miles they drive into the OReGO calculator at www.MyOReGO.org/calculator.

Drivers can contact OReGO customer service at (503) 986-7827 or myOReGO@odot.state.or.us, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday to learn more or for help signing up.

DMV will update its fee information at OregonDMV.com as of January 1, 2020.

Fees for commercial trucks and buses also are going up under this transportation funding program. For more information on commercial vehicle fees, visit the Motor Carrier Transportation Division at www.Oregon.gov/ODOT/MCT.

Vehicle registration fees, title fees, and other motor vehicle-related fees, such as fuels taxes and

motor carriers' weight-mile taxes, are set by the Legislature and help support Oregon's transportation system – statewide and at the local levels. The increased fees are part of the major funding package to improve our state's transportation system and to strengthen our economy.

Here are some transportation system investments your fees will support:

- Highway maintenance, preservation, seismic upgrades, and safety, including specific construction projects across the state.
- Increased funding for road maintenance and repairs in small cities and counties.
- A Safe Routes to School infrastructure program to reduce barriers and hazards for children walking or bicycling to and from school.
- Economic benefits by sustaining jobs, keeping freight moving, and providing a boost to local communities across the state.

For upcoming transportation projects in your area, visit www.oregon.gov/ODOT.

Any time you need to visit a DMV office, first check www.OregonDMV.com to find office hours and locations, and to make sure you have everything you need before your visit. You also can do some DMV business from home, such as vehicle registration renewals, at OregonDMV.com.

Yoga in Vernonia *continued from front page*

classes help to unwind the spine and integrate connective tissue. "They're simple movements that get more complex as the practice becomes more familiar and allow the body to become more fluid. There's never a goal within a pose, it's always an exploration. My practice can be adjusted to anybody and it can work for anyone."

Her regular Sunday "mini retreats" allow participants to arrive around 8:30 for a cup of tea and some social time, followed by practice from 9:00-12:00, which includes time for a meditation and a dharma talk – a brief lesson, then floor based physical work followed by some more classical yoga work. The practice is followed by a group lunch and time to relax and enjoy the farm.

Adams's Wednesday classes are by donation. Sunday retreats are on a sliding scale from \$20-\$45 and she asks anyone planning to attend a Sunday retreat to reserve a spot to help accommodate meal planning. "I also keep my fees open. If it doesn't work for someone for whatever reason, they can just talk to me. I just want people to be able to come."

Adams has a website, SinnerYoga.com, where she posts writings meant to accompany her yoga teachings,

including some of her philosophy and information about anatomy. "If anyone is interested in diving in a little deeper, they have that to support their practice," she says. Her website also contains schedules for upcoming retreats and other classes, including an upcoming Winter Solstice retreat on December 19-22 and a retreat she'll be teaching in British Columbia this summer. The YogaFarm has overnight accommodations for up to 17 people.

Wanless says he's mostly taught yoga as a volunteer, first teaching men at a drug and alcohol treatment center for over a year, then teaching inmates at the Oregon State Penitentiary for nine years, and at the Oregon State Correctional Institution for five years. He also taught anger management, violent offender groups, meditation, and mindfulness practices to inmates. "There was just something about working with inmates that really drew me in," says Wanless. "I met some of those guys at the Penitentiary who had been in prison for a long time and they were pretty grounded. Some of them were really wonderful, but their whole world was about pumping iron and running and pushing themselves to the limit. They thought yoga was going to be a stretching class. About 15 minutes into class they were flaming

out because they didn't know how to manage their energy and were bringing 150% to everything they were doing. I started moving it away from being just a physical class because I saw they needed some sense of an internal life."

Wanless was born in Wisconsin, and grew up in Beaverton. He spent four years in the U.S. Air Force as an aircraft mechanic during the Vietnam era, and then spent 31 years working for the Union Pacific railroad as a conductor. He is now retired and moved to Vernonia several years ago. Wanless says working for the railroad was hard on his body, and he found yoga was a way he could exercise that provided relief for his chronic pain. "I really needed something that was going to nourish me, that was about caring for myself and being good to myself. And yoga was the perfect fit."

Adams is originally from New Jersey, attended college at William and Mary University before transferring to Oxford University where she studied art and math, and then completed her graduate studies in London, earning a degree in painting conservation. She moved back to the United States and worked as an engineer for the Department of Energy in Portland, before becoming a full time yoga instructor. She has studied

yoga with several different teachers in Portland and in Sante Fe, New Mexico and taught in studios in Portland. She and her husband Ben are living at the YogaFarm and acting as caretakers of the property for owner Larry Steele. "Ben grew up on a ranch in Colorado," explains Adams. "He works in Photoshop doing advertising, but he loves to work with his hands, and build and fix things. We wanted to live more in community, so this is a great fit for us. And I'm starting up the yoga program here."

"Culturally we have this image of what yoga is, and that's not yoga," says Adams. "It's not a wealthy, white, skinny person's sport. We want the practice to be inclusive."

"Between what I'm teaching and what Tess is teaching, I think people here in Vernonia are pretty lucky to get all of that," says Wanless. "Yoga is a wonderful practice. I wasn't sure if it was going to work here in Vernonia. But people are progressing and it's slowly growing."

For more information about Jim Wanless's classes go to "Yoga at the Vernonia Grange" on Facebook. For more information about Tess Adams's classes go to www.SinnerYoga.com.



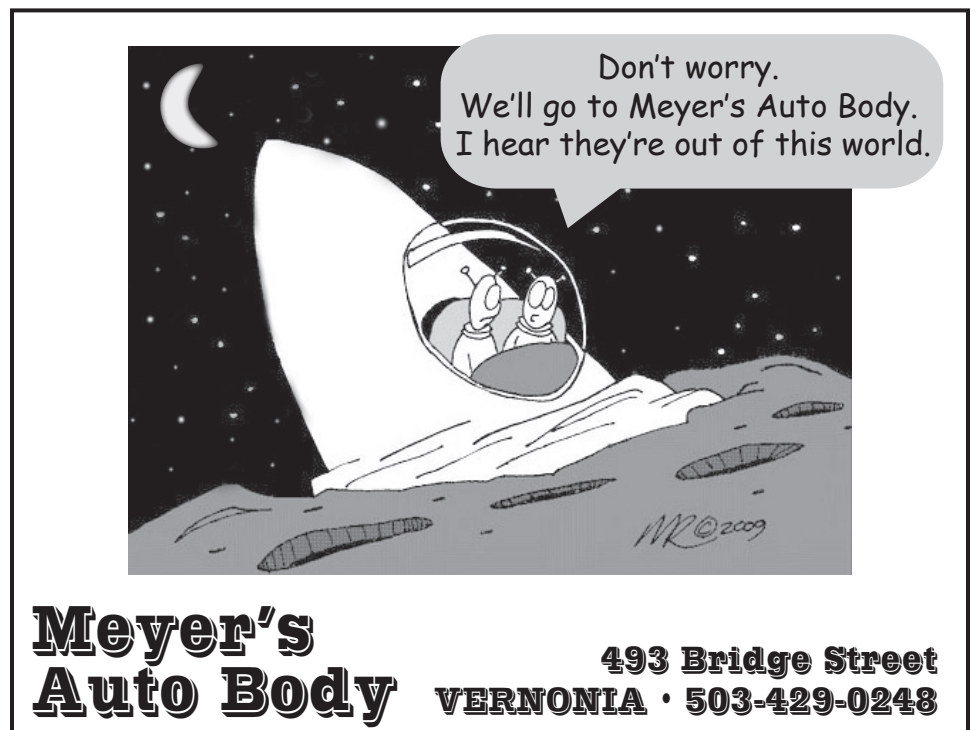
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