

This Way to Climate Change

Is there anything else I need to do?

If your car is still under warranty you should check with the manufacturer. If you plan to modify your car, you will need to contact your insurance company. They might refuse to insure it. If that happens then get in touch with these companies:

- www.norwichunion.com
- www.cis.co.uk
- www.nfumutual.co.uk



Courtesy of <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>

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Where can I find out more?

The other alternative fuel for diesel cars is vegetable oil. You can find out more about this from the leaflet 'Running a car on vegetable oil', available from Science Shops.

You can find out more from these websites:

- www.cat.org.uk/information
- <http://www.greencarsite.co.uk>

If you need more help, get in touch with the team at Science Shops Wales. You can do this by phoning us on 0845 841 3545, or by emailing us at scishopw@glam.ac.uk

Our web site address is:
www.scienceshops-wales.org.uk



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RUNNING A CAR ON BIO-DIESEL

This Way to Greener Living

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Why run a car on bio-diesel?

Bio-diesel costs about the same at the pumps as normal diesel. But it makes much less carbon dioxide and pollution. Too much carbon dioxide gas in the air is the main cause of global warming.



Courtesy of <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>

What is bio-diesel?

Bio-diesel is made from vegetable oil. About 20% of vegetable oil is glycerine. This makes the oil thick and sticky. A special chemical process is used which separates out the glycerine and creates bio-diesel.

Bio-diesel is very clean burning and also lubricates your engine better than normal diesel.

What type of car will run on bio-diesel?

All diesel cars will run on bio-diesel. You cannot use it with a petrol engine. You do not need to convert your car to run on bio-diesel.

However, bio-diesel is very good at cleaning your engine. So you will need to replace the fuel filter after about 500 to 1000 miles. After that you only need to replace filters as part of normal servicing. It is also best to use a 50/50 mix with normal diesel in the winter.

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Climate Change Greener Living

I've heard that bio-diesel is bad for the environment.

Bio-diesel is made from vegetable oils. When this oil is made directly from crops, it means that we can't use those crops for food. This is not a good idea as many people in the world do not have enough food to eat. Also, natural areas like forests are often destroyed to plant the crops. To make bio-diesel from crops also uses a lot of chemicals such as fertilisers and pesticides which can be harmful to the environment. And then it has to be transported. But we can make bio-diesel from recycled used oil. It is possible to clean waste vegetable oil from places like chip shops and turn it into bio-diesel. This also helps to reduce waste going to landfill. However, waste oil alone will never make enough biodiesel to meet all of our needs. If you are worried about the environment we would suggest that you only use recycled bio-diesel.



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Where can I buy bio-diesel?

Some garages already sell a mixture of 5% bio-diesel and 95% ordinary diesel. It is likely that it will become more common in future. In Wales, a community in the Valleys has set up its own bio-diesel pump. You can find out more from these websites:

- www.biodieselfillingstations.co.uk
- www.bryncynonstrategy.org.uk/fuelfactory.html



Courtesy of <http://fuelfactory.blogspot.com>

Can I make my own bio-diesel?

Yes, but it's not easy, can be dangerous and is very messy.

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