

Climate Change

How do I pay tax on vegetable oil?

If you have to pay duty and do not pay you are breaking the law and Customs and Excise can fine you. You can find out more on how to pay from these websites:

- <http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/>
- www.smartveg.com/downloads/UK%20Legal%20Requirements.pdf
- www.biomotors.co.uk/fuel-duty.html

What else do 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

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Where can I find out more?

The alternative fuel for diesel cars is bio-diesel. You can get more information on this from the leaflet 'Running a car on Bio-diesel', available from Science Shops Wales.

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 VEGETABLE OIL

Towards A
Sustainable Future

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Why run a car on vegetable oil ?

Burning vegetable oil in your car makes less carbon dioxide than normal diesel. Carbon dioxide is the main gas that is causing global warming. It is even better if it is produced locally. It can be a renewable resource, is biodegradable and non-toxic.



Courtesy of <http://www.blogeko.info>

Vegetable oil costs less than diesel. You will not have to pay duty on it to Customs and Excise if you do not use more than 2500 litres per year. If you use pure vegetable oil you also avoid the waste products of biodiesel production.

It is much better for the environment to use waste oil rather than fresh vegetable oil from the shops. Remember, vegetable oil is made from food crops. Natural areas are often cleared to make way for the crops. A lot of chemicals such as pesticides are used to grow the crops. And then the oil has to be transported. It is possible to clean up used, waste vegetable oil.



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A Sustainable Future Climate Change

What type of car will run on vegetable oil?

Any diesel engine will run on vegetable oil but you cannot use it with a petrol engine. However, vegetable oil is thicker than diesel and can break some fuel pumps and injection systems so you will have to convert your car.

Can I mix vegetable oil with diesel?

Yes. Any diesel car will run with 10% vegetable oil in the tank and most should be OK on 25%.

If you are going to use more than 25% vegetable oil, be very careful. Increase the amount of vegetable oil slowly. If you get any problems, cut the amount of oil in the tank. If you get it wrong, you could ruin your fuel injection system and damage your engine. This could cost a lot to repair.



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How do I convert my car to run on pure vegetable oil?

There are different ways to convert a car depending on the engine type. You can either buy a kit and do it yourself or get a professional to do it for you. This will cost between about £250 for the cheapest DIY kit to £2000 fully fitted, depending on which conversion method you choose. These websites offer information on converting your car:

- www.vegetableoildiesel.co.uk/conversionkits.html
- en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vegetable_oil_used_as_fuel
- www.lowimpact.org/factsheet_veg_oil_motoring.htm



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