

ARKANSAS ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

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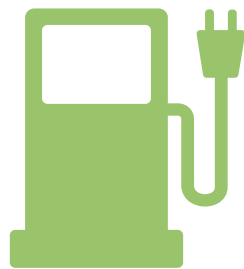
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SEASONAL TIPS FOR EV OWNERS

As the seasons change and temperatures drop, there are several considerations for your electric vehicle (EV) in the winter. If you drive an electric vehicle and charge it at home, you can navigate winter conditions and maintain personal safety and battery efficiency by following these guidelines:

EV Chargers



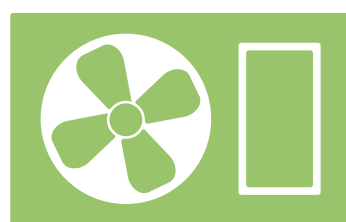
EV charger cables may become stiff or frozen in the winter, especially for chargers installed outdoors. If the cable freezes while plugged into the car, it is recommended to put your vehicle into preheat mode and allow the car to heat up. Deicer sprays may be helpful to clear the charging port or to make frozen cables more flexible. The cable's length should allow enough slack to navigate obstacles, such as snow and ice, and to park your vehicles in a different location that may move the port farther from the charger.

Battery Considerations

After a cold night, expect a drop in the EV range because the battery has dropped below its optimum operation temperature (40-90 degrees). Battery capacity is reduced during extreme temperatures, but this range will be regained as the battery warms up. EV owners may consider keeping the vehicle plugged in while the vehicle is not in use or to keep the battery above 20% to counteract the reduction in battery capacity from cold temperatures.



Heating



It may be prudent to use the heater initially to only warm the vehicle's interior. Once warm, you can switch on heated seats and steering wheel. This reduces energy consumption and extends the battery range. Another best practice for heating your EV is to warm it while it is still plugged into the charger. This helps heat the battery so it isn't as cold when you start driving, making the battery more efficient. This can also allow you to preheat the interior while using the power of the charging unit, which will also preserve the battery range for driving.

Precondition Your Car Before Driving

Preconditioning your EV will prepare you for inclement winter conditions. It may take longer to clear an EV of ice and snow compared with gas-fueled vehicles. Because EVs do not produce the same excess heat as combustion fuel vehicles, owners should plan for additional time and consider using snow scrapers and deicer. A set of winter tires will provide maximum grip when driving on snow- and ice-covered roads. Maintaining proper tire pressure will lower resistance and drain on the battery. Adjusting the regenerative braking system could aid driving in adverse conditions to minimize the risk of losing control while braking. The ability to do this may vary by vehicle. Reviewing the owner's manual prior to inclement weather is advised.

EVs are capable and efficient winter vehicles, especially when their unique parameters are considered **prior** to inclement weather. By following these tips, EV owners should be able to enjoy safe and efficient operation throughout the winter.

