

Car Sharing

Why we care

Cars are often the largest financial investment families make after their homes. Yet research has shown that the average car sits parked for 90% of its lifetime. Car sharing is one way to forgo car ownership. Members save money (more than \$500 a month as reported by Zipcar members) and reduce miles traveled by up to 44%. Members find they plan trips more efficiently and don't have to worry about car payments, insurance, maintenance, or repairs. Fewer cars on the road, less congestion, and less pollution mean society benefits as well.

Simple, positive change

- Explore car sharing. Members pay a fee, which provides insurance, and make an online or phone reservation for one of over 200 cars for as little as an hour to several days.
 - [Zipcar](#) (503-328-3539) members have access to cars, mini-vans, and pickup trucks over a wide area of Portland. The rates (about \$10/hr or \$72/day) include 180 miles worth of gas.
 - [Car2go](#) (503-841-6334) members pay a one-time fee for a two-person car and then pay by the minute. Fuel for up to 150 miles is included. The car can be returned anywhere within the home area.
- Two companies in Portland serve as matchmakers for peer-to-peer car sharing.
 - [Getaround](#) provides insurance, screens driving records, and takes a cut of the hourly rate determined by the car owner. Members use Facebook to connect.
 - With [RelayRides](#), renters make online or phone reservations and generally meet the owner to get the keys.

Questions or feedback? Contact Jeanne Roy at jeanne@earthleaders.org.