



# IS AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE RIGHT FOR YOU?



*As your Touchstone Energy® cooperative, we want to be your source for energy and information. Since electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming more mainstream, we put together a variety of fact sheets and information to help answer questions you might have.*

*Contact us for more information about EVs.*

Consider the following questions if you are thinking of purchasing an electric vehicle (EV).

## 1) What are your typical daily driving patterns?

### **TO CONSIDER**

- The average person drives 40 miles each day commuting to work and running errands. If that aligns with your daily mileage, consider a battery electric vehicle (BEV). Nearly all new BEVs cover at least 200 miles, and charging overnight should keep it ready for your commute.
- Even if you often venture on longer trips or have a few more extensive daily drives, you may consider a BEV as a second vehicle.
- If you average more miles per day and/or take frequent long trips, a plug-in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) may better meet your needs. PHEVs use a combination of an electric motor/battery pack and gasoline engine to provide about 20-50 electric miles and the ability to keep driving on gasoline after the battery is depleted. They need to be plugged in to charge but can operate in gas-only mode when necessary.



## 2) How will you charge the vehicle?

### **TO CONSIDER**

- BEVs operate solely on electric power and must be charged by plugging in. PHEVs must also be charged, but they can operate on gas if the charge runs out.
- A 120-volt outlet in your garage or driveway may handle overnight charging if you have a short commute, easy access to workplace or public charging, or a PHEV. Otherwise, you may not get a sufficient charge.
- If you want quicker charging, you will need a 240-volt connection and compatible charging station, which start at a few hundred dollars. Home electrical upgrades may also be required.
- You can review websites like [www.plugshare.com](http://www.plugshare.com) to see public charging locations near you or places you frequent.

## 3) Are you aware of available incentives or rebates?

### **TO CONSIDER**

- The purchase price of EVs may be higher than similar gasoline vehicles; however, this additional price is offset by lower operating and maintenance costs.
- The used EV market is continuing to grow, and you may be able to get a good deal on an older model.
- You may be eligible for the federal tax credit for new (up to \$7,500) and used (up to \$4,000) EVs.
- You may qualify for other rebates and perks from your state, city or cooperative, such as lower electric rates for charging overnight, discounts on home charging equipment or access to special commuter lanes.

*This article was provided by Advanced Energy, a nonprofit energy consulting firm. For more information, visit [www.advancedenergy.org](http://www.advancedenergy.org).*

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