

All About Eve

Charging costs

By Brian Zeidner

Director of Member Services

ONE OF the most common questions members ask us about Eve, our electric car, is how much it costs to charge Eve and how does that compare with a gas-powered vehicle? It depends.

The cord and charger, which is built into the cord, for Level 1 charging (120 volt) came with the car. We purchased a \$39 adaptor for Level 2 charging (240 volt) and installed the proper receptacle, similar to a dryer receptacle, in the garage. So, with the same cord, we can use either option.

When we installed the receptacle in the garage, we also installed an electric meter, as we knew we wanted to share this information with you. The price is the same, about 10 cents per kilowatt-hour (kWh), when we charge using Level 1 or 2.

The advantage of the Level 2 charge is that the car can be fully charged in about eight hours. Although the Level 1 charging option does not take any special receptacles or adaptors, if our range is depleted, Level 1 takes about 48 hours to fully charge.

Whether using Level 1 or Level 2, charging the car from empty to a full charge of 287 miles uses about 80 kWh of electricity, which would cost about \$8 at Claverack's electric rate. That's a pretty significant saving over gasoline costs for a similarly sized all-wheel drive car. The Subaru Legacy, as an example, averages around 30 miles per gallon. At current gas prices of \$3.25 per gallon, driving 287 miles would cost about \$31.



Carry out the \$23 weekly savings over the course of 52 weeks, and you're looking at about \$1,200 in annual fuel savings.

I live 17 miles from work. If I owned and used Eve as my daily transportation, I could drive all week, have 117 miles of range left, and could "fill her up" for about \$5 worth of electricity. If I used up the extra 117 miles on trips to the grocery store, feed store, barber shop and church, I would be closer to the \$8 fill-up cost each week.

With my vehicle needs and habits, I could charge once a week or, like my cellphone, I could plug the car in every night to top off the tank, so to speak.

It is interesting to note that some hotels now offer free Level 2 charging when you stay with them.

Level 3 charging is a little more complex, has more options, is a lot faster, and as you may imagine, is more expensive. Level 3 chargers are most commonly found along interstates and are what travelers would use during a long trip. We'll look at Level 3 charging next month.

If you have an EV-related topic or question you'd like us to explore, please send an email to mail@claverack.com.

From the President & CEO

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While the videoconference format works pretty well to conduct the "business" of the meeting, it certainly doesn't replace the personal interaction of our traditional annual meeting. Between now and next year's annual meeting, your board and management will be reviewing our overall member engagement and communications, including our annual meeting, to be sure we are listening to what you want, letting you know what we are doing, and making sure we continue to serve the needs of you, our members.

See you soon... 🌻