

# RESTORING *Lake Tahoe* & SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES



## Why Drive Electric?

Own<sup>ing</sup> an electric vehicle in the Tahoe-Truckee Region has never been easier. Save money in your wallet and help the environment by dramatically reducing gas consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and noise. Plug-in Electric Vehicles (PEVs) are a type of zero emission vehicle designed to plug into the grid to use electricity for fuel. You may be surprised to find out that PEVs are fun and safe to drive, and financially smart. Dozens of different PEV models are now available, not to mention the ease with refueling at home.

### Choosing an electric vehicle that fits your lifestyle



- Use the Pick-a-Plugin quiz (<https://content.sierraclub.org/evguide/pick-a-plugin>) to find vehicles best fitting your travel needs and budget. The diversity of models available is expanding rapidly. For instance, several manufacturers are introducing electric powered mini-vans, crossovers, and SUVs.
- Check out [FuelEconomy.gov](https://www.fueleconomy.gov) for the newest electric vehicle offerings. Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs), like the Chevy Volt, have both an electric motor and a gasoline engine. Battery electric vehicles (BEVs), like the Nissan LEAF or Tesla Model S, run solely on electricity.

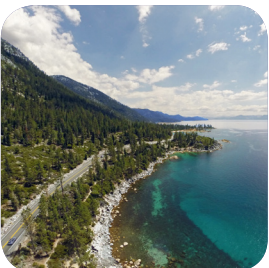


### Understanding the total cost of ownership

A common myth is that electric vehicles cost more than conventional vehicles. However, electric vehicle owners can take advantage of various incentives and long term savings by using a cheaper fuel (electricity) and lower maintenance costs that makes up for the up-front expenses. Lastly, local utilities offer discounted Time-of-Use (TOU) rates for electricity consumed during off-peak hours during the night.

- Liberty Utilities and NV Energy both provide reduced electricity prices with 19 to 47% savings.
- Want to see how much you could save on fuel costs if you drove electric? Check out the NREL Vehicle Cost Calculator at: [afdc.energy.gov/calc](https://afdc.energy.gov/calc).

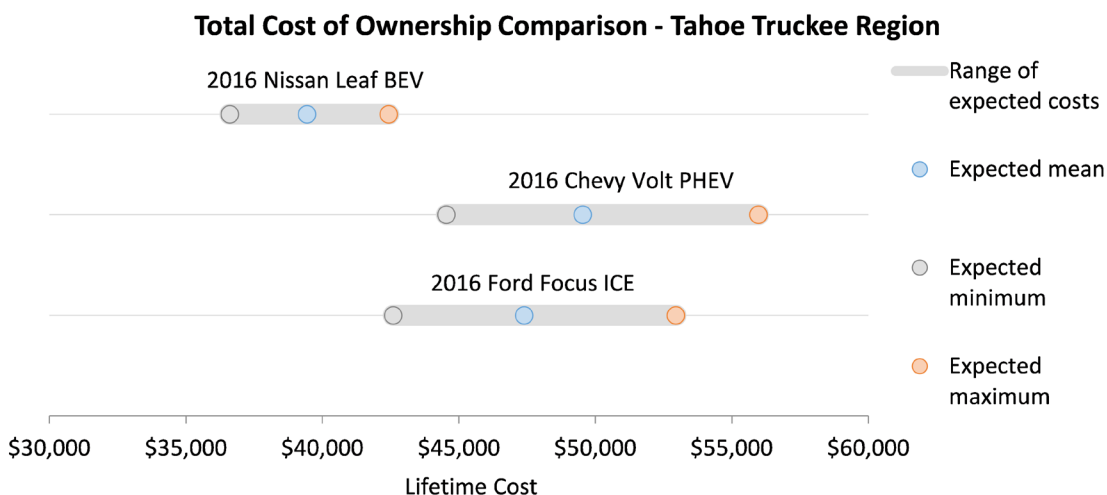
*When gasoline is priced at \$3 per gallon, it costs 55 - 83% less to drive a mile in a 2016 Nissan LEAF than a 2016 Honda Civic gasoline vehicle.*





## How do the costs compare?

To compare costs, this figure shows total cost of ownership calculations for vehicles owned for ten years. The following makes/models are compared: Ford Focus Internal Combustion Engine (conventional vehicle), Chevrolet Volt (PHEV), and a Nissan LEAF (BEV).



*Above figure assumes that federal and California incentives were used in the purchase of the BEV and PHEV makes/models and that the 40–80% of the miles are driven on electric for the Chevy Volt PHEV. Other assumptions: 10,000 to 14,000 miles are driven per year, gas prices were \$2.50 to \$4.00 per gallon, and electricity prices are 5¢/kWh–13.2¢/kWh. Annual insurance costs: Ford Focus—\$1,294, Chevrolet Volt—\$1,273, Nissan LEAF—\$1,165. Maintenance costs: Ford Focus—6.0¢/mile, Chevrolet Volt—4.9¢/mile, Nissan LEAF—4.5¢/mile.*

Want to keep up to date on the latest incentives? Check out the ARB PEV incentive finder: [driveclean.arb.ca.gov/pev/incentives.php](http://driveclean.arb.ca.gov/pev/incentives.php)



**Learn more about incentives and EVs at: [tahoealternativefuels.com](http://tahoealternativefuels.com)**

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