



News Release

Media Contact:
Georjeane Blumling, Ph.D.
Vice President Public Affairs
757-233-3825
Gblum@tidewater.aaa.com

AAA GAS PRICE REPORT – APRIL 2013 TRENDS AND SUMMER OUTLOOK

Motorists Paying Lowest Springtime Gas Prices in Three Years

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va., (April 30, 2013) - Gas prices nationally averaged \$3.55 per gallon in April, which was the least expensive average for the month since 2010. Gas prices dropped about 13 cents per gallon in April (3.5 percent), which was the largest percentage decline for the month in ten years. In comparison, gas prices in 2012 averaged \$3.89 for the month, while the average price in April 2011 was \$3.79 per gallon.

- “Gas prices in much of the country have declined this spring because of lower oil costs, ample refinery production and continued weak demand,” said Georjeane Blumling, Ph.D., AAA Tidewater spokesperson. “Gas prices have fallen faster and earlier than ever before for this time of year, and it is saving motorists millions of dollars per day in lower fuel costs.”
- The national average price of gas for April 30, 2013 is \$3.51 per gallon, which is the fourth highest on record for this day. The national average a year ago was \$3.82 per gallon, while the average on this day in 2011 was \$3.93 per gallon and in 2008 it was \$3.62 per gallon. **The Virginia’s average on a gallon of gas today is \$3.36, 19 cents less than a month ago and 39 cents less a year ago. In Hampton Roads, the current gas price is \$3.36, 19 cents less than a month ago and 39 cents less a year ago.**
- AAA has no record of gas prices previously peaking in February, yet the highest average of the year so far is \$3.79 per gallon on Feb. 27. Since that time, the average price nationally has dropped 50 out of 62 days for a total of 28 cents per gallon. The peak price in 2012 was \$3.94 per gallon on April 5 and 6, while the peak in 2011 was \$3.98 on May 5. **Whereas, the peak price in 2012 for Hampton Roads was \$3.93 per gallon on April 5 and 6, while the peak in 2011 was \$3.90 on May 5.**
- Half of U.S. adults consider gas prices to be “too high” when it reaches \$3.44 per gallon, according to a [new consumer index](#) developed by AAA. Forty-six percent of adults believe gas is too high when it reaches \$3.00 per gallon; 61 percent believe it is too high when it reaches \$3.50 per gallon; and 90 percent believe gas is too high when it reaches \$4.00 per gallon. Sixty-two percent of Americans are offsetting high gas prices by changing their driving habits or lifestyle.

Gas Prices Should Drop to \$3.20-\$3.40 During Summer Driving Season

- Gas prices should drop to \$3.20 to \$3.40 per gallon by mid-summer if current trends continue in regards to oil prices, motorist demand and refinery production. Gas prices in recent years have declined in early summer after reaching a springtime peak as refineries ramp up gasoline production in anticipation of the summer driving season.

-MORE-

- “Families taking trips this summer can expect to pay lower gas prices than recent years as long as there are not any refinery problems or significant international news events,” continued Blumling. “Lower prices should bring at least some relief to everyone going on vacation, but it is clear that millions of motorists will continue to believe that prices are too high for this time of year.”
- Over the next few weeks average prices nationally could remain flat or even rise slightly as some maintenance and production issues continue. Gas stations in many parts of the country also must begin selling more expensive summer-blend gasoline by June 1 in order to meet federal air quality standards.

Cheapest Gas Prices Predominately in the Southeastern United States

- The cheapest gas prices are predominately in the Southeast where extensive refinery production and lower-than-average taxes have helped keep prices low in comparison to the rest of the country. Gas prices in the Great Lakes region have increased in recent weeks because of planned refinery maintenance and unscheduled outages following recent heavy storms.
- Motorists in every state in the continental U.S. are paying less than \$4 per gallon for gasoline. The only state paying above that threshold is Hawaii, which generally is the most expensive gasoline market in the country.

Learn how to save money on gas with a few [simple tips from AAA](#).

As part of North America’s largest motoring and leisure travel organization, AAA Tidewater Virginia provides its more than 325,000 members with travel, insurance, financial and automotive-related services. Since its founding AAA Tidewater Virginia has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers. For more information, visit AAA.com and follow us on Twitter at [Twitter.com/AAATidewaterVA](https://twitter.com/AAATidewaterVA).

AAA news releases, high resolution images, broadcast-quality video, fact sheets and podcasts are available on the AAA NewsRoom at AAA.com/news.

Stay connected with AAA on the web via:



YouTube.com/AAA

###