



News Release

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2011 YEAR ENDS WITH ALL-TIME RECORD HIGH GAS PRICE AVERAGE IN VIRGINIA AND THE NATION

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA (Friday, December 30, 2011) – Motorists across the nation and in Virginia will have paid more, on average, for a gallon of self-serve regular gasoline in 2011 than ever before. With just one day left in the year, the national average price for gas is close to \$3.27 per gallon with Virginia’s average through today, December 30, 2011, at a record high \$3.17.

“As analysts look at everything from economic indicators and global developments to the most popular movies and photos of the year, motorists simply look at how they will continue to put gas in their cars in 2012,” said Georjeane Blumling, Vice President of Public Relations for AAA Tidewater Virginia. “The average family in Virginia is predicted to have spent \$4,544 on gas in 2011 as compared to \$3,713 in 2010, an increase of \$841 in just one year.”

While gas prices for the year are high. They have been dropping fairly steadily as the year draws to a close. Gas prices today in Virginia are 14 cents lower than they were on November first. Nationally prices are now 16 cents lower than the beginning of November. Analyst Tom Kloza, Chief Oil Analyst for the Oil Price Information Service, predicts that current lower prices will continue through the year’s end and into January when they will likely hit their lowest when demand is typically low. Kloza, however, predicts that prices could go up a full \$1.00 from the lows in January as we head towards spring.

	VA - Year to Date Average as of: 12/30/2011	VA -Year End Average 2010	VA - Year End Average 2009	*VA - Year End Average 2008
Average price per gallon self-serve regular gas	\$3.17	\$2.78	\$2.35	\$3.25
Projected Annual Average Family Gas Expense	\$4,554	\$3,713	\$3,138	\$4,340
Difference when compared to 2011	N/A	-\$841	-\$1,416	-\$214

* Previous Annual Record

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/AAATWnews](https://twitter.com/AAATWnews).

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