



Ride & Drive Event Sparks Interest in Electric Vehicles

Upcoming Event to Showcase New Electric Vehicles and Offer Test Drives

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-May 1, 2023-A single spark is often all it takes to get things moving and that same idea looks to ignite interest in electric vehicles (EV) and e-bikes and their use. Driving an electric vehicle in, around, and to/from the mountains is getting easier and easier and the models and charging options are quickly expanding.

“We are excited to see the growth in popularity of electric vehicles in our community” says Winnie DelliQuadri, City of Steamboat Springs Special Projects and IGS Manager. “We are doing as much as we can here locally to help make owning an electric vehicle practical and support the larger goal of reducing emissions in our community”.

This includes partnering with Yampa Valley Electric Association, Yampa Valley Sustainability Council, Northwest Colorado Clean Cities, and Clean Energy Economy for the Region to host a series of local Ride and Drive events to help educate the community on EV options and get people behind the wheel of an electric vehicle or take an e-bike for a spin.



The next Ride & Drive event is scheduled for Sunday, May 7 at the Howelsen Hill Rodeo Grounds from 10 AM to 3 PM. A handful of electric vehicles will be available to test drive, including a Ford MachE (Mustang), Chevy Volt, Jeep Rubicon 4xE, Tesla Model Y, and Ford Lightning F150. In addition, local EV owners will have a chance to show off their personal vehicles, including a Rivian SUV, as part of the show-n-shine event.

The Ride & Drive is free, but advanced sign up is required, so drive over to steamboatsprings.net/ev for details and to register for a time slot. Can't make this one, another Ride and Drive event is scheduled for September.

Charging stations for electric vehicles are conveniently spread across the city from the mountain to downtown to west of town. Steamboat Springs has approximately 30 public charging stations, 14 of which are free EV charging stations and a total of three DC Fast Chargers. In addition, several high-speed charging stations now dot the highway between Granby and Craig, as well as across the state.

Many organizations provide tax credits for EV purchases. Locally, YVEA has a \$250 rebate for residential level 2 charges as well as rebates on electric bikes, electric lawn maintenance equipment and electric snow blowers (see YVEA website for qualifying criteria). Additional tax credits and rebates are also available at both the state and federal levels.

Still have questions or want to learn more on how you can Spur Change? Plug into the city's website for additional information, links to resources and partner materials and online educational seminars.

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