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The Greenest Sweeper

Environmental impact is something we are all very aware of today. "Green" anything is a way to show how a manufacture of a product is concerned about how there products affects the world around us.



In the sweeping industry "Green Sweepers" have concentrated on sweepers that are powered by Natural Gas or Propane. Street Sweeping and Parking Lot Sweeping are completely different. Street Sweepers must be able to sweep up a complete array of materials found in a street. Sand, rock, and gravel are one of the common things found in street sweeping. These materials weigh on average around 3,200 to 3,800 lbs. per square yard. On average a parking lot sweeper sweeps litter, and trash left behind by people shopping in a shopping center or wherever people park cars. Generally heavy material such as sand are not found in parking areas unless there is heavy winter salting and sanding which occurs in the states that receive large amounts of snow.

Trash from parking lot sweeping weighs around 150 to 200 lbs per yard. The sweeper that sweeps parking lot trash is completely different then a street sweeper. Here are some comparisons:

Street Sweeper		Parking Lot Sweeper	
GVW- Gross Vehicle Weight	15,000 to 30,000 lbs	GVW	5,000 to 9,000 lbs GVW

	GVW		
Combined Horse Power Truck and Sweeper	315 to 400	Combined Horse Power Truck and Sweeper	140 to 200
Fuel Consumption on "Per Hour Sweeping Basis", Alternate Fuel	4.25 Gallons	Fuel Consumption on "Per Hour Sweeping Basis" Gasoline	1.15 Gallons
Cost of Truck and Sweeper	\$160,000 to \$270,000	Model 1600 Econo / Ford Ranger Cost of Truck and Sweeper	\$39,980.00
Miles per Gallon fuel consumption, Alterante Fuel	6.5 MPG	Miles per Gallon fuel consumption, Gasoline	15.8 MPG
Oil Change Quarts	22	Oil Change Quarts	7
Weight of vehicle stress to parking structure and parking pavement	12,000 to 28,000 lbs. curb weith	Weight of vehicle stress to parking structure and parking pavement	3,800 lbs curb weight

From a "GREEN" point of view operating a Street Sweeper converted to Alternate fuels may be good for a street sweeping application. Parking Lot Sweeping does not benefit from alternate fuel application. Small gas engine truck and operating on a fuel efficient gas Auxiliary motor emit only a quarter of emissions, one third the oil maintenance cost, one third of the weight impact on a parking structure, and the most important "Green" is the cost is a quarter to a third the cost to buy. Environmentally this sweeping process is being over looked because of political pressure putting attention on Alternate Fuels. There is no "Greener" parking lot sweeper on the market today. This sweeper must operate in the confines of the design purpose of sweeping trash from a parking surifice.

For more information contact Mike Dyck at Masco Sweeper, Inc.

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