

CHARGE AHEAD MONTANA

Diana Maneta

Owner of a 2017 Nissan Leaf



What made you decide to buy an electric vehicle?

For many years my husband and I had two cars: a Subaru and an ancient Honda Accord. When it was finally time to let go of the Honda, we realized that an EV would be a perfect replacement for it. We didn't need a big range, since we can use the Subaru for going out of town, so what we were looking for was something affordable and reliable for running errands and shuttling our son around town. We loved the idea of saving money on gas and reducing our emissions at the same time.

What has been your favorite part of owning your electric vehicle?

It's an incredible feeling to plug the car into the wall and know I'll never have to take it to a gas station.

What has been the most challenging part of owning an electric vehicle?

Honestly, the biggest challenge was to clear the clutter out of the garage to fit

the car in it, since that's where it charges. We haven't had a single problem with the car itself.

Have you ever taken your electric vehicle on a trip? If so, where to?

The farthest we've driven it is down to the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge (60 miles roundtrip). The car's range is 107 miles so it wasn't a problem to make that trip on a single charge.

Would you recommend an electric vehicle to someone considering buying a new car?

It depends what you're looking for. If you need a car for getting around town, and you want to reduce your environmental impact and save money on gas, it's a great choice. We haven't taken ours on a road trip, but that would be possible too; it would just take a little planning to figure out when and where to charge it.