

Tesla Roadster Tops Green Car Ranking

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The field of green-hued vehicles is beginning to get a little crowded, giving Greenopia's new [2011 model guide](#) heightened relevancy. But one thing hasn't changed: The [Tesla Roadster](#), for the second straight year, is the guide's greenest car.

That's the word from a Greenopia [press release](#), which noted that "the car companies who performed the best overall in the study were Tesla, smart, Mini, Honda, Volkswagen, Kia, and Toyota. Honda was especially notable with 3 of its vehicles receiving the coveted 4-leaf rating from Greenopia, being the only automaker with more than 1 vehicle receiving a 4-leaf score."



image via Tesla Motors

Greenopia said one change in its ratings system this year was the addition of performance as a criterion, called "eco-performance" by the service. "Certain performance automakers do not get enough credit for how efficient their vehicles are," Doug Mazeffa, Greenopia's research director, said in a statement. "While sportier cars typically have dismal fuel economies, some are shockingly efficient."

Other criteria for the ratings: fuel efficiency, emissions, SmartWay certification from the Environmental Protection Agency, curb weight, engine type and fuel type.

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