

**Wheels:** We have a letter asking, “I have a 2002 Avalanche 2500 with an 8.1 engine. I need to get better miles per gallon out of it. So what I’m asking is, if I install a high-performance air intake system, will I get better than the 9 mpg I’m getting now in city driving or will I be throwing \$300 away?”

**Halderman:** I have not read any scientific studies that have documented the fuel economy improvements from a low-restriction exhaust system from the catalytic converter back, and a cold air intake, but I have heard from many others that these two items together will not only improve the power, but also the fuel economy. I have heard that the fuel economy can be 2 to 4 miles per gallon. The downside to these modifications will be increased noise, but I personally like the added noise! How much fuel savings would it take to pay for these changes? I will leave it for you to calculate.

