

Gas and Rubber Rationing

The first non-food item rationed was rubber, after the Japanese captured of the Dutch East Indies that produced 90% of the world's rubber.

Rationing gasoline was based upon need. Unlike other rationed items, not everyone was entitled to their fair share of gas. Those whose driving aided the war effort were allowed more gas, including the clergy and physicians.

President Roosevelt asked the American people to recycle old rubber items, such as tires, raincoats, and bathing caps. He also set the national speed limit to 35 miles per hour, calling it the Victory Speed.

Each car was issued a sticker that denoted the amount of gasoline the car could purchase in a week. The average American was allowed 4 gallons of gas per week.

