

Build a Better Road Trip

Tuesday, June 16th 2014
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We'll cover:

Web

- Google maps
 - fuel cost calculators
 - AAA
 - fuel caster

APPS

- waze
- iExit
- RoadNinja

Entertainment

- eBooks, audiobooks, video, music

Technology can save you money and stop you from getting lost.

It's all super easy to use (once you know where to go).

It can also make car rides and vacations a lot more enjoyable!



Here at EPL

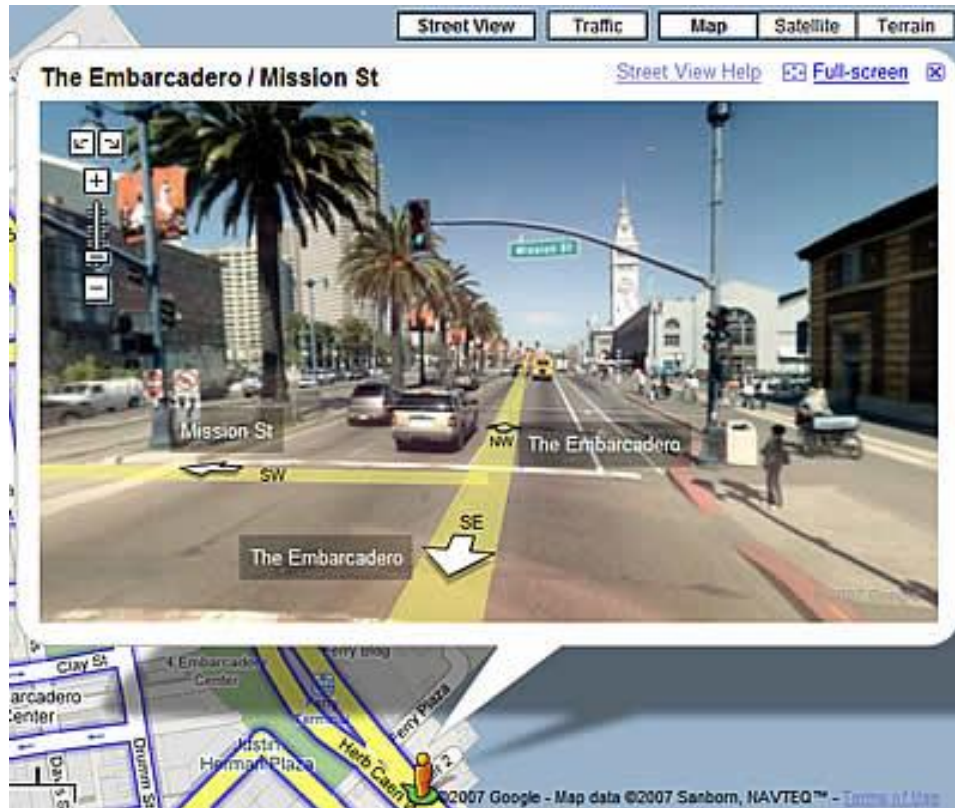
WEB

Probably the most readily thought of service, Internet map directions have been around 5+ years



Some popular services include **Mapquest**, **Google Maps**, and **Bing Maps**

That being said, **Google Maps** is probably the largest and most used of the maps services for good reason. The other map services have the same or similar features, but **Google Maps** is more robust.



Two extremely helpful features are:

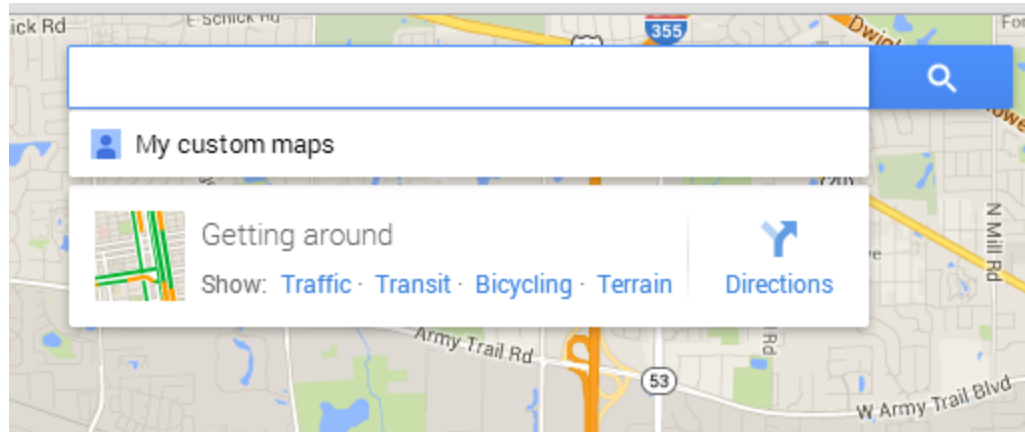
- Streetview
- And custom maps

Google Streetview allows you to get a groundview of virtually every area in America and many other locations world wide

Simply enter a location and pick up and drag the tiny street view character onto the map. Google maps will then zoom into the location and allow you to continue to move along on, adjust the magnification, and angle of the camera!



Another helpful feature is if you have (or make) a Google account, you can pin locations and save trips in Google maps to be accessed on the road or at another time



This feature is accessed under the search bar “My Custom Maps”

Multiple maps can be saved!

Want to budget more accurately? Use a fuel cost calculator!

AAA's fuel cost calculator is great for the entire trip, but is a little broad.

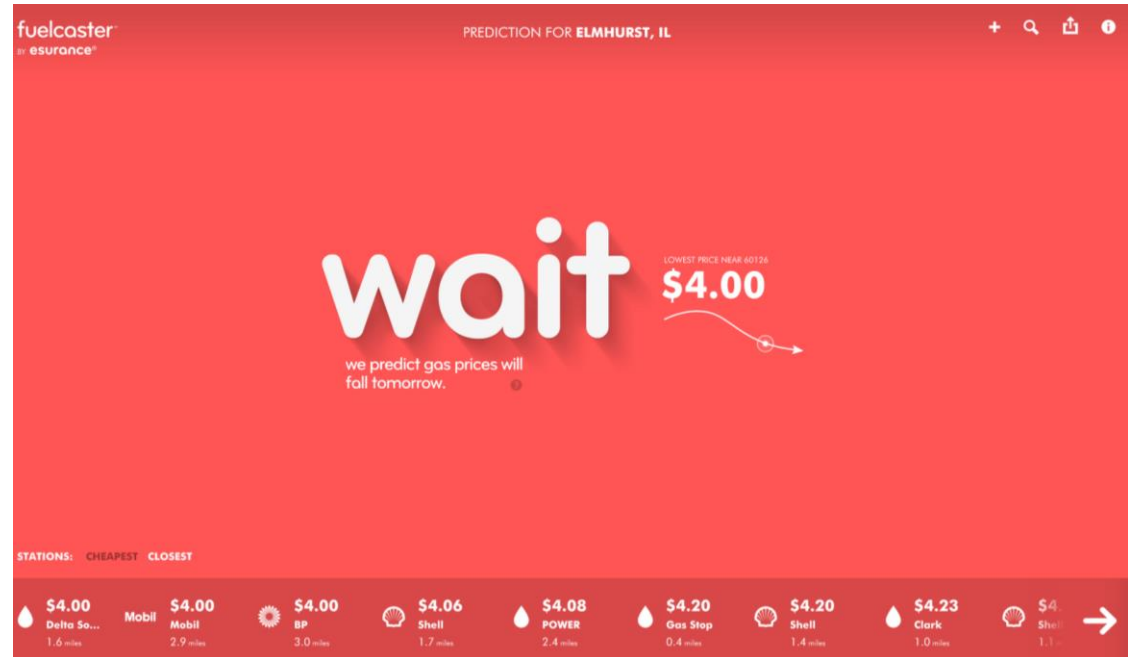
<http://www.fuelcostcalculator.com/>



Fuelcaster is esurance's free fuel cost calculator.

While AAA's service is great over time, Fuelcaster gives you a daily indicator of gas prices in your area.

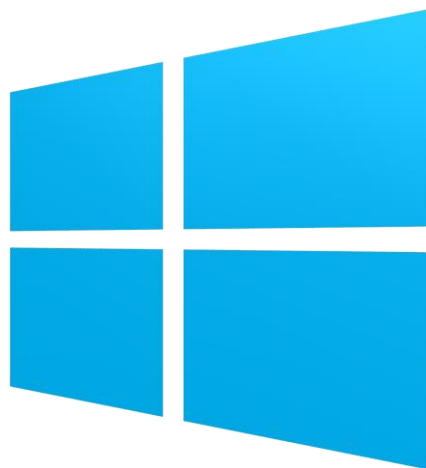
<http://www.fuelcaster.com>



Apps

(Apps are used on smartphones or tablets. To download one, go to the App Store, Google Play, or Windows Store and search for the app by name)

Several Apps are available on your smartphone
(including Google Maps, MapQuest, and iMaps)



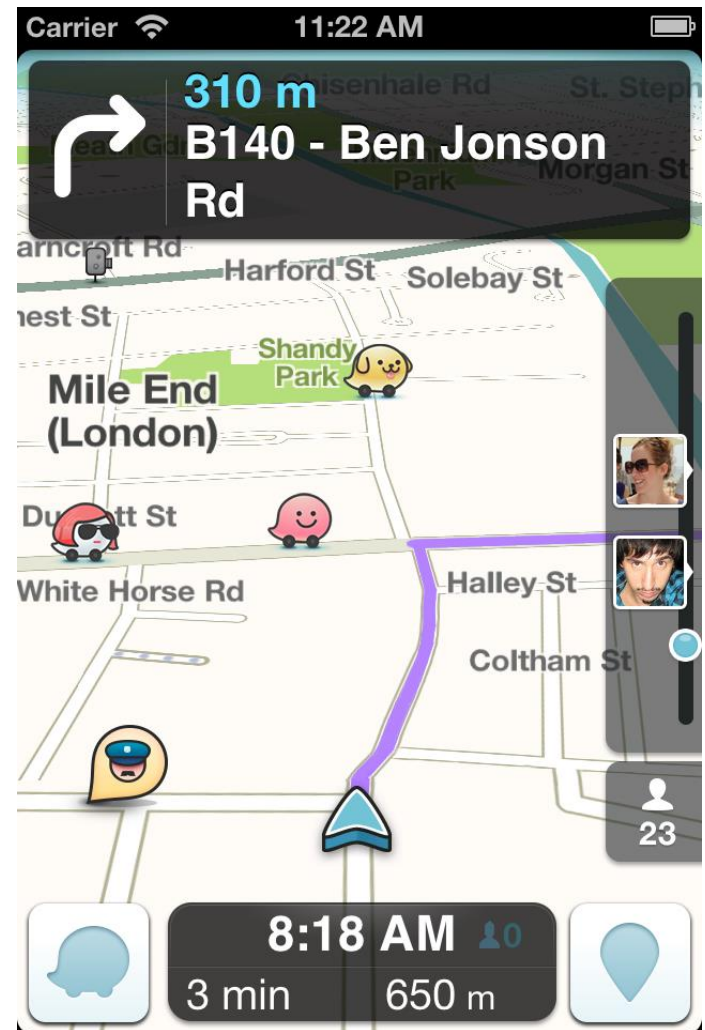
Most of the Apps work extremely similar to their web counterparts except for **Waze**.

Waze has all of the typical navigation to get you from point A to point B, but its social features/community make it extremely useful.



Waze Highlights

- Waze users post real time traffic information about congestion, weather conditions, accidents, and police officers
- Connectivity with Facebook
- Gas prices in the area
- Competitive leveling features



More Apps & Devices

While we only talked about a few free apps, there are several purchasable apps for varying uses

- **Back Country Navigator** is great for hikers and backpackers

- **Navigate 6** has a yearly membership but offers some offline map support

- And if you don't have a smartphone, TomTom or other similar devices are a great alternative



Entertainment

Free Music, eBooks, and Audiobooks from the Library

Our free Services include:

Once eBooks and audiobooks are downloaded to the device, they no longer require an Internet connection, making them perfect for traveling.

To listen to an audiobook in the car, simply download the book to a smartphone or mp3 player and use an AUX audio cable. (older cars/stereos will not have a port available but some adapters are available)



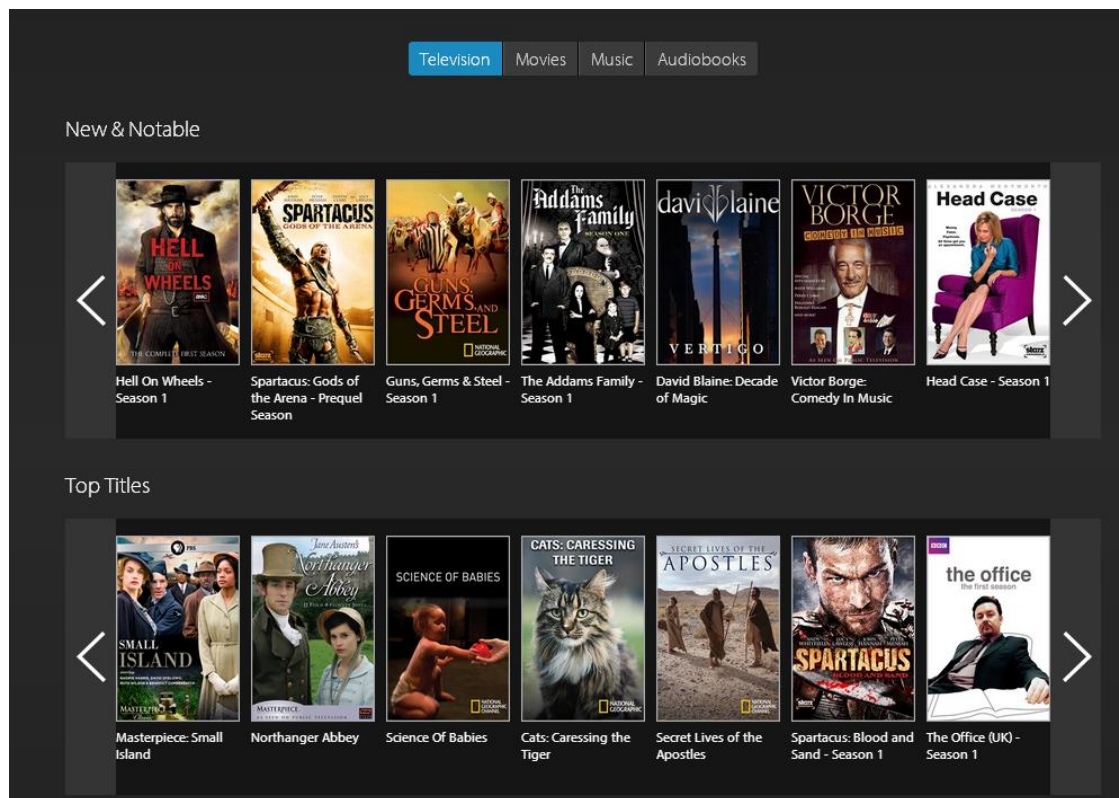
Entertainment



Hoopla is a great new service we offer at EPL.

After downloading the app, all of Hoopla's items can be downloaded on a phone or tablet for offline use.

Patrons are allowed 15 titles per month and there are no waiting lists!



Be sure to look out for all our great summer programming at:
<http://elmhurstpubliclibrary.org/adults/events/computer-classes/>

Thanks so much and have a great road trip!



Entertainment