

## Featured Partner: Meijer



### ABOUT MEIJER

Meijer is a privately-owned and family-operated retailer based in Grand Rapids, Michigan with 256 supercenters and grocery stores throughout Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Wisconsin. Established in 1934, Meijer pioneered the "one-stop shop" concept and has since expanded its departments to include fresh produce and meat; apparel, toys and electronics; pet supplies; pharmacies; and garden centers.

For more information, visit:  
[www.meijer.com](http://www.meijer.com)

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“Meijer joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) SmartWay program in 2005 to collaborate with like-minded companies and join leaders that share its goals to reduce freight emissions. The decision to join SmartWay has reinforced and helped Meijer pursue strategies that reduce emissions and reap savings.”

— David Hoover, Director of Outbound Logistics, Meijer Logistics

### SMART CHOICES, BIG SAVINGS

With a fleet of more than 250 Class 8 trucks, Meijer understands its influence as an industry leader and is motivated to set an example for others to follow as one of the most efficiently run regional fleets in the U.S.

Since joining SmartWay, **Meijer's company records show** that its fleet has achieved a **one- to two-percent increase in fuel economy** annually despite increasing miles over the past 15 years. Meijer reports that its company's trucks use 14 percent less fuel today than they did in 2006. According to the company's calculations, this reduction amounts to nearly **570,000 gallons of fuel saved annually**, allowing Meijer to reduce its carbon inventory and output by 5,325 metric tons each year. It's also achieved significant reductions in other harmful emissions, such as nitrogen oxides and particulate matter.

# 5.325

**million metric tons (mmt) of  
CARBON SAVED**

### VEHICLE AND TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENTS

These improvements are in part a result of Meijer's continued use of **technology to increase efficiencies, route changes, and its work with vendors on using the latest product designs**. For example, Meijer was among the first fleets in North America to implement EPA's 2010 emission control standards for oxides of nitrogen and non-methane hydrocarbons.

To help further increase the fleet's overall fuel efficiency and emissions reductions, Meijer employs **tire inflation and monitoring systems**, among other strategies, to track tire wear and even the source of such damage. Additionally, to help the retailer keep its commitment to SmartWay, Meijer reviews tractor and trailer specifications annually to ensure the fleet utilizes the best available technologies, such as **lighter-weight brake and suspension components and reduced tractor-cab-to-trailer spacing** to decrease wind resistance.

## Featured Partner: Meijer *(continued)*

As a grocery retailer, Meijer has invested in a **telematics system** that in addition to enabling network efficiencies, also serves to maintain quality and temperature control in the refrigeration systems of its trucks. The refrigerated trucks all have alarm and communication systems that alert the drivers to respond to any change in temperature. The telematics system also has helped Meijer to **backhaul more product on its warehouse and distribution network, reducing empty miles on the road.**

Meijer uses electronic log data (ELD), radio-frequency identification (RFID), and Meijer Logistics software to track and manage its fleet. Together, these technologies reduce empty miles, maintain fuel efficiency, and lower energy costs.



### THE ROAD AHEAD

Looking forward, Meijer plans to electrify loading docks at 25 of its higher-usage stores to **further reduce the fuel consumption** associated with refrigerated trailers during loading and unloading. An added benefit will be reducing the noise pollution associated with loading and unloading trucks at its docks and within the communities they serve. Framing this as a capital investment, Meijer is confident that this initiative will further distinguish it as a leader in fleet sustainability while **also inspiring other SmartWay partners to take their commitment to fuel efficiency to the next level.**

Please visit the SmartWay website at [www.epa.gov/smartway](http://www.epa.gov/smartway) for more information about our Partners.

