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## Car buyers also pay for trees

New car buyers in Adelaide will have the opportunity to offset the carbon emissions of their vehicles in a scheme launched yesterday.

But the green initiative will come at a cost, with the customer asked to pay up-front to supply the trees that will soak up the greenhouse gases.

Conservation group the Canopy Project, with the Adelaide-based Toyota CMI, launched Australia's first offset scheme for cars. Using a formula developed by the Australian Greenhouse Office, CMI car buyers will be able to make a donation when they make their purchase to cover the cost of planting enough trees to soak up the carbon emissions the car will put out over the next 40,000km.

The donation can be claimed as a tax deduction. The contribution for a small car is set at \$134, enough to cover the cost of trees to soak up 6.7 tonnes of carbon dioxide. A medium-sized car will cost \$198 and a big car or four-wheel-drive \$322. The trees will be planted on a property near Kanmantoo, east of Adelaide.