

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Georgia's Clean Air Force  
60 Chastain Center Boulevard  
Suite 64  
Kennesaw, GA 30144



**■ SPARE THE AIR AND YOUR WALLET:  
Ongoing vehicle maintenance can save you  
money and help keep our air clean.**

Try these tips to help prepare for your next vehicle emission test:

- The most common reasons for emission test failures include: a malfunction in the components of the vehicle that regulate the fuel/air ratio such as the oxygen sensor and the EGR valve; a dirty air filter; misfiring spark plugs; leaks in the vacuum system; or a poor-fitting fuel cap. Many of these components can be checked and repaired during routine tune-ups. Follow the manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule.
- Have your oil changed regularly.
- Replace your fuel cap securely after filling up. On 1996 and newer model year vehicles, the "Check Engine" light may illuminate as a result of a loose fuel cap. If the "Check Engine" light is illuminated, try tightening the fuel cap until it clicks, then drive the vehicle until the light turns itself off. If it does not turn off, take your vehicle to a qualified repair technician.
- Keep the sealing surfaces of your fuel cap clean and in good condition.
- Keep your tires properly inflated.
- Check belts and hoses for wear.
- A transmission problem is directly related to the emission control system and can trigger the "Check Engine" light. A diagnostic analysis will yield a transmission code that will help identify the transmission component(s) that need repair. Transmission malfunctions can prevent a vehicle from running efficiently, increasing emissions above federal certification limits.
- Before seeking repairs, research any recalls, technical service bulletins (TSBs), and manufacturer warranties regarding your emission control system.

**NOTE:** Federal law requires emission control systems on 1995 and newer model year vehicles to be warranted by the manufacturer for two years or 24,000 miles. Federal law also requires the OBD computer and catalytic converter on 1995 and newer vehicles be warranted by the manufacturer for eight years or 80,000 miles. Many vehicle manufacturers provide extended warranty coverage beyond what is required by federal law. Consult your vehicle owner's warranty manual for coverage information.

CleanAirForce.com  
800.449.2471

©2010 #268696.10.09



**ABOUT  
GEORGIA'S  
VEHICLE  
EMISSION  
INSPECTION AND  
MAINTENANCE  
PROGRAM**



CleanAirForce.com  
800.449.2471

Georgia's Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program is designed to identify and ultimately repair gasoline-powered cars and light-duty trucks that pollute the air. Georgia's I/M program, known as Georgia's Clean Air Force (GCAF), helps our area work toward attaining federal clean air standards.

**■ WHICH VEHICLES REQUIRE A  
PASSING EMISSION INSPECTION TO  
RENEW THEIR 2010 REGISTRATION?**

**IF YOUR VEHICLE IS:**

A 1986 – 2007\* model year gasoline-powered car or light-duty truck (8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating and less) registered in Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding or Rockdale County.

*\*The three most recent model years are exempt each year. In 2010, this includes 2008 and newer model year vehicles.*



For testing information in Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese visit CleanAirForce.com.

**Testing Tip #1:** Test early—GCAF recommends having your vehicle inspected four to six weeks prior to the registration renewal date (the vehicle owner's birthday) to allow for any needed repairs.

**Testing Tip #2:** Vehicles can be tested well in advance if the driver will be out of area at time of registration. An inspection is valid for 12 months or one renewal, by the same owner.

**Testing Tip #3:** For 1995 and older vehicles—warm up the engine under normal driving conditions to ensure your vehicle is at operating temperature before testing.

**Testing Tip #4:** Follow the recommended maintenance and tune-up schedule for your vehicle.

**Testing Tip #5:** You have the right to observe the inspection as it is performed. We encourage you to read the Motorists' Rights poster at the inspection station or at CleanAirForce.com.

**What if I am buying a used vehicle?**

If you are buying a used vehicle that will be registered in a covered county, the seller must ensure the vehicle has a passing Georgia Vehicle Emission Inspection Report (VIR), performed within the last 12 months, before selling the vehicle. The seller is not required to provide a hard copy of the passing report. VIR reprints may be obtained from CleanAirForce.com or at any GCAF Service Center. To file a complaint against a seller for failing to have a passing VIR at the time of sale, visit CleanAirForce.com and complete the "Used Vehicle Sale Complaint Form."

**Buying Tip #1:** A Repair Waiver from a previous owner cannot be used to register a newly purchased used vehicle in the covered area; it must have a valid passing Georgia vehicle emission inspection.

**Buying Tip #2:** Print a copy of a vehicle's most recent inspection at CleanAirForce.com or any GCAF Service Center.

**WARNING!**

For 1996 and newer model year vehicles: If your malfunction indicator light (MIL) is on (otherwise known as the "Check Engine" or "Service Engine Soon" light), your vehicle will fail the inspection. This is a definite indication of one or more emission-related problems detected by your vehicle's on-board diagnostic (OBD) computer. The problem may be as minor as a loose fuel cap or as major as an emission control system failure. Seek repairs prior to having an emission test. If you present your vehicle for inspection with the "Check Engine" light on, the inspector cannot refuse to test your vehicle.

**What if I think the inspection or the test equipment was faulty?**



If you question the test procedures, the accuracy of the inspection equipment, or the validity of the results, you may request a referee test within 15 calendar days of the disputed inspection if no repairs have been made (15 days includes the day of the first inspection). For more information, call the GCAF Call Center at 800.449.2471. Also, please report offers to illegally pass a vehicle by calling the GCAF Call Center or by submitting an e-mail to info@cleanairforce.com.

**How can I receive a refund?**

Each emission inspection station is independently owned and operated. Motorists may contact the station owner or manager directly for assistance or file a complaint with the Better Business Bureau or the Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs.

## MY VEHICLE FAILED. WHY?

### 1996 and newer model year vehicles

There are two main reasons why a 1996 or newer model year vehicle may fail the on-board diagnostics (OBD) test:

1. There is something wrong with your vehicle's emission control system and it needs to be repaired. You will receive a copy of your Georgia Vehicle Emission Inspection Report (VIR) and Emission Repair Form from your inspector. Take these documents to a repair facility. The VIR will indicate the general area of the failure and will help your repair technician determine the appropriate repairs. *The emission inspection is not a diagnostic analysis.*
2. Your vehicle's OBD computer is "Not Ready." While this does not necessarily mean your vehicle has a problem, it does indicate your vehicle's OBD computer has not met the criteria to be ready for testing.

### What should I do if my on-board diagnostic (OBD) computer is "Not Ready?"

If repairs are performed on the vehicle or if the battery was recently disconnected, **GCAF recommends:**

1. Drive your vehicle for approximately one to two weeks under normal conditions including some highway driving.
2. If your vehicle has difficulty becoming "Ready," check the thermostat, fuses, and wiring to the battery and on-board computer or have a diagnostic analysis performed using an **OBD generic scan tool**; connect to the data link connector (DLC) under the dash, not under the hood. An aftermarket system\* that is not properly installed can interfere with the on-board computer. Research recalls, technical service bulletins (TSBs), and manufacturer applied extended warranties to determine if there are recommended repairs regarding your vehicle's emission control system. Once repairs have been completed and you have driven your vehicle for one to two weeks to ready the on-board computer, return to the original inspection station for a free retest within 30 days of the first test.

### My vehicle will not "communicate" during testing. What should I do?

1. The inspector should attempt to test the vehicle several times.
2. If your vehicle has had an after-market system\* installed, make sure the wiring is not interfering with the connection to the vehicle's computer or battery system. Research recalls, technical service bulletins (TSBs), and manufacturer applied extended warranties to determine if there are recommended repairs regarding your vehicle's emission control system. Have a diagnostic analysis performed using an **OBD generic scan tool**; connect to the DLC under the dash, not under the hood.

3. If the inspector has attempted to test the vehicle several times and/or a diagnostic analysis indicates the vehicle is able to communicate with an **OBD generic scan tool**, call the GCAF Call Center at 800.449.2471. A representative will document your situation and a GCAF representative will return your call promptly.

\* Radio, CD player, security system, navigation system, or satellite radio.

### What if my MIL illuminates after I complete the drive cycle?

Once the vehicle becomes "Ready," the OBD computer may detect additional emission-related problems. If so, the MIL will illuminate indicating a problem. Proceed with the proper repairs before using your one free retest. Only emission-related issues will cause the MIL to illuminate.

**NOTE:** Before a free retest can be performed, you must provide the failing Georgia Vehicle Emission Inspection Report (VIR) and completed Emission Repair Form, which should be filled out by your repair technician. If self-repairs are conducted by the vehicle owner, only the cost of parts (not labor) should be documented on the Emission Repair Form.

### 1995 and older model year vehicles

The inspector will give you an Emission Repair Form, a GCAF Q&A brochure, and a Georgia Vehicle Emission Inspection Report (VIR), showing which area(s) of the test your vehicle failed. A diagnostic analysis should be performed by a qualified repair facility to determine why your vehicle failed in one or more of the following areas:

- Excessive carbon monoxide (CO), oxides of nitrogen (NOx), or hydrocarbon (HC) levels in your exhaust emissions.
- A damaged or missing catalytic converter. If originally equipped, a converter is required by federal and state law.

## WHERE DO I GO FOR REPAIRS?

Find out if your vehicle is still covered by a manufacturer's emission control warranty. If so, take it to an authorized dealer. If your vehicle is not under warranty, find a qualified emission repair shop to make the necessary repairs. For a list of qualified emission repair shops in your area, view the RepairWatch Public Report at any inspection station or visit CleanAirForce.com.

**Repair Tip #1:** GCAF recommends obtaining an estimate for labor and parts before authorizing repairs.

**Repair Tip #2:** : Make sure your mechanic completes the Emission Repair Form that was given to you when your vehicle failed. You will need it to get your free retest after the repairs are performed.

**NOTE:** Keep all receipts. Repair receipts are not needed to obtain a retest but are needed to apply for a Repair Waiver.

## When can my vehicle be retested?

You can obtain one free retest at the original inspection station within 30 calendar days of your first inspection. The 30 days includes the day of your first test and expires at the time of day of the original test. Before a free retest can be performed, you must provide the failing Georgia Vehicle Emission Inspection Report (VIR) and completed Emission Repair Form. If the original inspection station is closed when you return for the retest, call the GCAF Call Center at 800.449.2471 for assistance.

## POSSIBLE EXCEPTIONS

### Repair Waiver

Visit CleanAirForce.com or a GCAF Service Center for complete instructions on how to apply for a Repair Waiver.

### 1996 and newer model year vehicles — on-board diagnostics (OBD) tested:

To qualify, the cost of emission-related repairs must meet or exceed \$788.\*

### 1995 and older model year vehicles — acceleration simulation mode (ASM) tested:

To qualify, all of the following criteria must be met:

- The cost of emission-related repairs must meet or exceed \$788.\*
- The retested vehicle must show improvement in all the areas it failed on the first test.
- The retested vehicle must still pass the areas it passed on the first test.

\* The Repair Waiver limit amount is adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index.

### Senior Exemption

### All of the following criteria must be met to qualify for a Senior Exemption:

- You are 65 years old or older.
- Your vehicle is 10 model years old or older (2000 model year or older).
- You drive less than 5,000 miles per year.

You or a proxy may apply at your county tag office, at any GCAF Service Center, by e-mail, fax or mail.

Seniors who have received an exemption in the past may be able to renew via phone. For further information, call the GCAF Call Center at 800.449.2471.

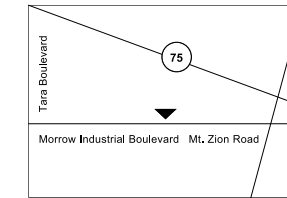
### Out of Area Extension

If you and your vehicle are temporarily located well outside of the 13-county emission testing area due to student or military obligations, you may qualify for a temporary Out of Area Extension. The vehicle must be tested once it returns to the metro Atlanta area. For details on qualifications and how to apply, visit CleanAirForce.com or contact your nearest GCAF Service Center. **Vehicles can be tested well in advance** if the driver will be out of area at time of registration. An inspection is valid for 12 months or one renewal, by the same owner.

## GEORGIA'S CLEAN AIR FORCE FULL-TIME SERVICE CENTERS

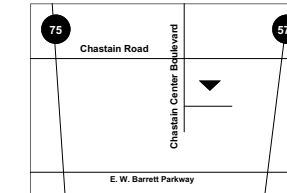
### Clayton County

The Executive Center  
1115 Mt. Zion Road  
Suite EC-12  
Morrow, GA 30260  
770.692.7998



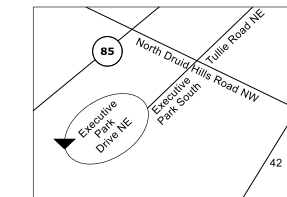
### Cobb County

Chastain Center Business Park  
60 Chastain Center Boulevard  
Building 60, Suite 64  
Kennesaw, GA 30144  
770.421.9051



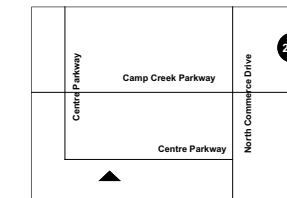
### DeKalb County

Executive Park  
17 Executive Park Drive  
Suite 510  
Atlanta, GA 30329  
404.315.4880



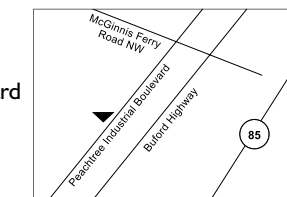
### Fulton County

Camp Creek Business Center  
(enter via Centre Parkway)  
3800 Camp Creek Parkway  
Building 2400, Suite 110  
Atlanta, GA 30331  
404.494.3773



### Gwinnett County

Peachtree Office Center  
1810 Peachtree Industrial Boulevard  
Suite 239  
Duluth, GA 30097  
770.495.1509



For information on part-time GCAF Service Centers at additional locations in metro Atlanta, please visit CleanAirForce.com or call 800.449.2471.

In addition to the above GCAF Service Centers, many county tag offices offer waiver services, which could save you a trip. Visit CleanAirForce.com or call the GCAF Call Center at 800.449.2471 for directions and hours of operation for full-time service centers.

## LET US KNOW HOW WE ARE DOING!

You may also send us your comments via e-mail by visiting CleanAirForce.com.

Name (optional)	_____
Address (optional)	_____
City, State, Zip (optional)	_____
Phone Number (optional)	_____
Station ID#: GA - _____	Inspector Name _____
Station Name & Address	_____
1. How would you rate your experience with this inspector? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____	
2. How would you rate your experience with this inspection station? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____	
3. If your vehicle failed, did the inspector refer you to the RepairWatch Public Report booklet? Yes _____ No _____	
4. If your vehicle failed, did the inspector provide you an Emission Repair Form and a GCAF Q&A brochure? Yes _____ No _____	
4a. If so, how helpful was the brochure in answering your questions? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____	
5. Have you ever visited our Web site at CleanAirForce.com? Yes _____ No _____	
5a. If so, how would you rate the ease of finding program information? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____	
6. Have you ever called our toll-free information line? Yes _____ No _____	
6a. If so, how would you rate your overall experience with the process and representative? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____	
7. Have you ever visited a GCAF Service Center? Yes _____ No _____	
7a. If so, how would you rate your overall experience with the process? Excellent _____ Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____	