

Motorists' Rights

And Tips For Vehicle Emission Inspections



YOU have the right to **VIEW THE INSPECTION** from a designated viewing area as it is being performed.

The **MAXIMUM** cost that can be charged for an emission inspection is **\$25**.

A **FREE RETEST** may be obtained if you return to the original inspection station within 30 days of the initial inspection (timeframe includes day of the initial inspection).

TEST EARLY: We recommend having your vehicle tested 4-6 weeks prior to the registration renewal date.

SENIOR EXEMPTION: If you are the primary registered owner **AND** are 65 or older **AND** your vehicle is at least 10 years old **AND** you drive it less than 5,000 miles per year, you may apply for a Senior Exemption at your Tag Office or a GCAF Waiver Center.

EXEMPT VEHICLES: The three most recent model years, vehicles 25 years old or older, or vehicles with a **GVWR** (gross vehicle weight rating) of greater than 8,500 pounds.

AN INSPECTION IS VALID for 12 months. However, the inspection can only be used once by the same owner for registration renewal. If you purchase a used vehicle which has a passing inspection, you may use it for your **INITIAL** registration provided the inspection is less than 12 months old at the time you register the vehicle.

INSPECTORS MUST wear a GCAF photo ID badge where it is clearly visible when performing an inspection. This is your assurance that a properly trained inspector, currently licensed by the State, performed your inspection.

If an inspector enters any incorrect vehicle information (VIN, year, model, mileage, etc.) when performing an inspection, another initial test must be performed at **NO COST** to the motorist in order to correct the error. An inspector cannot use the motorist's **FREE** retest to correct an inspection error.

If you have a valid reason to dispute the method or accuracy of your inspection, you have the right to request a **REFEREE TEST** within 15 days of the inspection. Contact a GCAF Waiver Center for more information.

Within the 13 metro-Atlanta counties, by law, it is the **SELLER'S RESPONSIBILITY** to provide a valid passing emission inspection at the time of sale if the vehicle being sold is required to be registered by the **PURCHASER** in one of those 13 counties.

EMISSION INSPECTION STATIONS ARE REQUIRED by the State to have and maintain specified minimal levels of liability insurance.

IF YOUR VEHICLE DOES NOT PASS, the inspector must give you a **GCAF Q&A BROCHURE** and an **EMISSION REPAIR FORM**. Inspectors are also required to inform motorists of the **REPAIRWATCH PUBLIC REPORT**, which lists repair shops by zip code having an 80% or better success rate in emission-related repairs.

ONGOING VEHICLE MAINTENANCE is the best way to help your vehicle run efficiently and pass inspection.

WARNING!

If your MIL (Malfunction Indicator Light — "Check Engine" or "Service Engine Soon" light) is on, your vehicle will not pass the inspection. This is a definite indication of one or more emission-related problems detected by your vehicle's OBD computer. The problem may be as minor as a loose fuel cap or as major as an emission control system failure.



PRIOR TO AUTHORIZING REPAIRS, we recommend researching Recalls, Technical Service Bulletins (TSBs), and Manufacturer and Federal Warranties regarding your vehicle's emission control system.

FEDERAL LAW REQUIRES that the catalytic converter and on-board computer for 1995 and newer model year vehicles be warranted by the manufacturer for 8 years or 80,000 miles.

If emission-related repairs exceed the Repair Waiver limit amount, ask about the qualifications for a **REPAIR WAIVER** (see Q&A brochure for details).

If you wish to provide a comment about your testing experience, see the Q&A brochure for details to call, send an email, or return a **GCAF COMMENT CARD** by mail.

Asking for or offering to falsely "pass" a vehicle is **ILLEGAL** and subject to criminal conviction and fines.