

REGISTRATION SCENARIOS REGARDING VEHICLE EMISSION INSPECTIONS



SCENARIO: A motorist buys a used vehicle in May. The previous owner had it tested in February. The new owner uses the inspection from February to register the vehicle in May. The new owners' birthday is in December. Will the vehicle need to be tested for the December registration renewal, even though the test is still valid for two more months?

ANSWER: No. If the emission inspection is still valid (dated within the last 12 months), the new owner can use the inspection from the previous owner for their registration renewal.

SCENARIO: It is August 2009 and the motorist's birthday is in September. The motorist is extremely late renewing his registration from 2008. The vehicle was tested and the owner renewed his 2008 registration. Will the vehicle need to be tested again (immediately or within one to two months) to renew the motorist's 2009 registration since his birthday is next month?

ANSWER: Yes. Vehicles registered in one of the 13 covered counties require an emission inspection every year. The vehicle must be tested again to renew the motorist's 2009 registration.

SCENARIO: A motorist buys a vehicle from a dealership or individual without a current passing emission inspection. What should the motorist do?

ANSWER: The motorist should download and complete the Used Vehicle Sale Complaint Form available on the Georgia's Clean Air Force (GCAF) Web site at www.cleanairforce.com, under *Forms and Program Information*. Once GCAF has received the form, a representative will contact the motorist to begin the investigation.

SCENARIO: A motorist's birthday is February 15. The motorist moves to Georgia in February and has his vehicle tested and registered on February 20, 2009. In 2010, the motorist wants to use the February 2009 inspection to renew the vehicle's registration. Can the February 2009 inspection be used to renew the registration if it is within a few days of expiring?

ANSWER: Yes. An emission inspection is valid for 12 months or one registration renewal, by the same owner. In order to get the motorist on an annual testing cycle, some county tag offices may choose to require the motorist to have the vehicle inspected, if the previous inspection for the initial registration will expire within a few days. However, this is up to the county tag office's discretion. GCAF will inform the motorist that the vehicle does not need to be tested again if the current test is still valid; however the motorist should contact his county tag office for confirmation on registration requirements.