



Buyer Beware

What to Do Before You Buy a Used Vehicle

- According to Georgia law, the seller (regardless of location in Georgia) is responsible for selling a vehicle with a current, valid passing Georgia Vehicle Emission Inspection Report (VIR) if the buyer is going to register the vehicle in a Georgia county requiring emission testing. For 2010, all 1986 - 2007 model year gasoline-powered cars and light-duty trucks (8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating or less) require an emission inspection.
- Vehicles sold “as is” are not exempt from the requirements to have a current, valid passing VIR at the time of sale.
- A VIR is valid for 12 months or one registration renewal, by the same owner. The VIR can be used for initial registration and again for the renewal as long as the VIR is still valid.
- A copy of the most recent VIR can be downloaded for free via the Georgia’s Clean Air Force (GCAF) Web site, www.cleanairforce.com. Click on the “Motorist” microsite and select “Print a Copy of Your VIR” under “Quick Links.” Buyers can print a copy of a VIR by simply entering the vehicle identification number (VIN).
- Vehicles sold as “parts only” or “salvage,” where the title has been appropriately identified as such with the Department of Revenue, Motor Vehicle Division, are not subject to the vehicle emission law.
- Buyers are encouraged to ensure the vehicle that they are purchasing has a current, valid passing VIR prior to purchase and to seek resolution with the seller if the newly purchased vehicle does not have a current, valid passing VIR.
- Buyers may submit a complaint for a vehicle being sold with a current, valid passing VIR by completing the Used Vehicle Sale Complaint Form. The complaint form is available on the GCAF Web site at www.cleanairforce.com/stations/usedcar.php.
- The Rules for Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance, sale of vehicles, section 391-3-20-.18, can be viewed by visiting the GCAF Web site at www.cleanairforce.com/stations/rules.php.

