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**VEHICLE EMISSION TESTING PROGRAM MAINTAINS RECORD RATING**

*Motorists Report Second Year of High Satisfaction with Testing Experience*

**ATLANTA** – November 13, 2008 – Motorist perception and awareness of Georgia's vehicle inspection and maintenance (I/M) program, which is administered by Georgia's Clean Air Force, was measured in the organization's 12<sup>th</sup> annual emission testing program study. Most notably, the survey revealed that the program maintained its record high rating – 9.0 on a 10.0 scale – from motorists regarding their overall emission testing experience.

Other key survey findings include:

- For the second year in a row, motorists were most satisfied with the emission inspectors and the short test time (9.2/10), and also provided favorable marks for the test's duration, time spent waiting in line, travel distance to testing locations and hours of operation.
- 98 percent of motorists are aware that keeping their vehicle properly maintained can increase the likelihood of passing the emission test.
- 85 percent of motorists – up 14 percentage points from 2007 – say information on the emission testing program is easy to understand and convenient to obtain.
- Acceptance of the emission testing program reached 77 percent, an increase of 8 percentage points from 2007.
- Of the 77 percent of motorists who reported acceptance of the emission testing program, 43 percent believe the program is worthwhile because it helps metro Atlanta's air quality. In fact, the program estimates it will keep more than 4,700 tons of pollutants from entering our air in 2009.

The survey is part of an annual quantitative study that tracks the awareness and attitudes of motorists regarding Georgia's Clean Air Force and its vehicle emission testing program. In July 2008, more than 300 telephone surveys were administered to a random sample of motorists within the 13 metro Atlanta counties who are age 18 or older and own a model year 1984-2005 gasoline-powered car or lightweight truck.

“We're committed to educating residents about the role they play in helping Georgians breathe a little easier by getting their cars' emissions tested each year,” said Cherrise Boone, public information specialist – Georgia Environmental Protection Division. “These annual studies help us determine how Georgia's Clean Air Force can better educate and serve metro Atlanta motorists.”

**About Georgia's Clean Air Force**

Since 1996 Georgia's Clean Air Force, the state's Enhanced Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance Program, has worked with Georgia's Environmental Protection Division to reduce harmful vehicle emissions. Georgia's Inspection and Maintenance Program has prevented tons of ozone-forming pollutants from the air we breathe by identifying and repairing more than 1.5 million heavy-polluting vehicles. For more information, please visit [www.cleanairforce.com](http://www.cleanairforce.com).

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