IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR VEHICLE’S EMISSIONS INSPECTION

2020

• TEST EARLY: Georgia’s Clean Air Force (GCAF) recommends having your vehicle inspected four to six weeks prior to the registration renewal date every year (the vehicle owner’s birthday).

• ONGOING MAINTENANCE: Follow the recommended maintenance and tune-up schedule for your vehicle to allow for any needed repairs.

• NEW VEHICLE EXEMPTIONS: The three most recent model years are exempt each year. In 2020, all 2018 and newer model year vehicles are exempt from emissions testing.

WHICH VEHICLES NEED TO BE TESTED?

• In 2020, all 1996 - 2017 model year gasoline-powered cars and light-duty trucks (8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating or less) registered in Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Henry, Paulding or Rockdale County.

• 1996 - 2017 model year vehicles that are newly acquired or recently moved into the 13-county area must have proof of passing inspection within the last 12 months and must be registered within 30 days (seven days if purchased from a non-registered dealer).

POSSIBLE EXCEPTIONS

• Senior Exemption: The vehicle owner must be 65 years old or older, the vehicle must be 10 model years old or older (2010 model year or older), and the vehicle must be driven less than 5,000 miles per year. Seniors who have received an exemption in the past may be able to renew by phone at 1.800.449.2471.

• Out-of-Area Extension: Available for vehicle owners who meet all requirements (the requirements can be found at CleanAirForce.com); vehicle must be tested upon return to the area. Vehicles can be tested well in advance if the driver will be out of the area at the time of registration.

• Repair Waiver: Available if emissions-related repairs meet or exceed the Repair Waiver limit amount; other qualifications based on vehicle model year apply.

HOW MUCH WILL THE INSPECTION COST?

A test costs up to $25; for more details please visit www.CleanAirForce.com. Stations must post the testing fee on their official GCAF sign.
WHAT IF I PURCHASED A USED VEHICLE?
According to Georgia law, sellers located within the 13-county testing area must ensure the vehicle has a valid passing emissions test at the time of sale if the vehicle will be registered in one of the 13 counties. A paper copy of the Georgia Vehicle Emissions Inspection Report (VIR) does not have to be provided. Visit CleanAirForce.com to view a summary of your most recent VIR results.

TESTING TIPS FOR 1996 – 2017 MODEL YEAR VEHICLES
• If your vehicle’s battery was recently replaced or disconnected, or the computer reset, drive the vehicle for one to two weeks under normal conditions, including some highway driving, prior to having an on-board diagnostic (OBD) inspection or retest.
• If your vehicle’s “Check Engine” light is on, the cause may be as minor as a loose fuel cap or as major as an emissions control system problem. Seek repairs prior to having an emissions test. If you present your vehicle for inspection with the “Check Engine” light on, the inspector must test it, but it likely will not pass.
• Visit CleanAirForce.com for helpful repair tips.

WHERE DO I GET MY VEHICLE TESTED?
• At any Georgia’s Clean Air Force inspection station.

WHAT IF MY VEHICLE FAILS?
Have your vehicle repaired to meet the required emissions standards. Your emissions inspector will give you the failing Georgia Vehicle Emissions Inspection Report (VIR), a blank Emissions Repair Form, and a GCAF Q&A brochure, which details retest procedures.

RepairWatch is a public report that lists repair facilities with a proven track record for emissions-related repairs. You can view it at all inspection stations or at CleanAirForce.com.

You can obtain one free retest at the original station within 30 calendar days of the initial inspection. The 30 days includes the day of your first test and expires at the time of day of the original test.

Federal law requires the catalytic converter and on-board computer for 1995 and newer vehicles to be warrantied by the manufacturer for eight years or 80,000 miles.

If your vehicle fails its annual emissions inspection, please have all related taxes and fees ready. Then visit your local county tag office for information about a possible nonrenewable 30-day extension on your registration, per OCGA 40-2-20.