



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Prepare for Winter Temperatures with These Tips for Fall Car Care

**ATLANTA (December 4, 2019)** – During the fall season, [Georgia's Clean Air Force](#) (GCAF), in partnership with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), recommends drivers begin practicing beneficial habits that increase fuel efficiency, lessen long-term maintenance costs and reduce harmful vehicle emissions.

According to Georgia's Clean Air Force, it's never too early to begin prepping your vehicle for harsher weather conditions. This action saves both time and money.

"With colder temperatures and conditions coming up, the mild fall season is the best time to look at the ways to best prepare your vehicle for winter," said Michael Odom, Mobile & Area Sources Manager, Georgia EPD. "By following these expert tips, motorists can extend the life of their vehicle, while increasing its performance and contributing to cleaner air."

- **Weatherproof Your Windshield.** Most regular windshield wiper fluids consist of mainly water, so it's best to replace it with solvents specially formulated for colder temperatures. Windshield washer solvents protect your windshield washing system in cold weather. Also, change your wiper blades every fall – a proactive measure that is both easy and inexpensive.
- **Tend to Your Tires.** Almost two billion gallons of gas could be saved if the tires on every American's car were inflated to the proper PSI. Cold weather has a direct impact on tire pressure and can cause your tires to have a less-than-recommended reading. The appropriate pressure is listed in the vehicle manual, noted on a sticker in the driver's doorjamb and can be found on the tire sidewall.
- **Brake Check.** Brakes are a critical part of a vehicle's safety in the winter months. Utilize the fall season to check your entire brake system, including the brake linings, rotors and drums.

- **Determine Any Special Oil Needs.** Find out if your vehicle requires a different engine oil for very cold weather. This information can be found in the owner's manual.
- **Create Reminders.** Forgetting important maintenance milestones is a common occurrence, so use the National Car Care Council's free personalized schedule and email reminder service to keep you on track for regular appointments. Visit <http://www.carcare.org/car-care-service-schedules-3/custom-service-schedule/>.

To download an infographic on fall car care, visit the Georgia's Clean Air Force website at <http://www.cleanairforce.com>.

### **About Georgia's Clean Air Force**

Georgia's Clean Air Force (GCAF), in partnership with the Environmental Protection Division (EPD), is responsible for the management of the Enhanced Vehicle Emission Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program throughout Atlanta's 13 metro counties. Since 1996, Georgia's Inspection and Maintenance Program has prevented more than 1.9 million tons of harmful ozone-forming pollutants from entering the air we breathe, the equivalent of removing 13,400 vehicles from the road or planting more than 400 million trees. It is estimated that Georgia residents have saved \$311 million in utility bills since 1996 due to cleaner air. The program has also identified and repaired more than 3.6 million heavy-polluting vehicles. For more information, please visit <http://www.cleanairforce.com>.

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