



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Georgia's Clean Air Force Recommends Eight Important Tips for Buying a Pre-Owned Vehicle**

**ATLANTA (September 11, 2020)** – According to a 2020 car and transportation report from Statista, Americans bought 40.8 million pre-owned vehicles in 2019. With more than seven million motorists on the road in Georgia, knowing the steps to buy the right pre-owned vehicle can lead to a longer car life and cleaner air for all.

[Georgia's Clean Air Force](#), in partnership with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), offers eight important tips to help motorists expertly choose a pre-owned car or truck.

“Before buying a pre-owned vehicle, consumers must conduct adequate research to make sure their time and money is well-spent,” said Michael Odom, Mobile & Area Sources Program Manager, Georgia EPD. “You can never be too careful when buying a previously owned car, and knowing what to look for will ensure you’re making a worthwhile investment.”

- **Set Guidelines.** Before purchasing a pre-owned automobile, create a list of your specific needs, familiarize yourself with vehicles you’re interested in and establish a budget.
- **Get a Free Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR).** Georgia’s Clean Air Force’s website provides a summary of the most recent vehicle inspection reports to inform motorists of the vehicle’s latest valid, passing emissions inspection: [www.cleanairforce.com/motorists/vir-reprints/](http://www.cleanairforce.com/motorists/vir-reprints/).
- **Request a Carfax Report.** Carfax reports provide the vehicle’s history, including whether the car has been involved in an accident or a range of other negative events.
- **Research the Dealer.** Before buying a pre-owned vehicle, make sure you know who you are purchasing from. By researching dealers, you can eliminate untrustworthy sellers or those with negative comments.

- **Make Contact and Schedule a Test Drive.** Calling the seller is a great way to verify the car's information and schedule a test drive. A test drive can tell you if the car is the right make and model for you and provides further insight into its condition.
- **Obtain a Pre-Purchase Inspection.** Hire a trusted professional to perform a pre-purchase inspection.
- **Complete an On-Board Diagnostic Test.** An on-board diagnostic test determines what kind of repairs need to be performed on the vehicle. The test scans for codes that are linked to specific damage services and any preventative maintenance services.
- **Factor in Location.** Metro Atlanta has a 13-county emissions testing area that requires a passing test every year. Anyone residing outside of metro Atlanta's 13-county emissions testing area are not required to provide a passing test at the time of sale, as 13-county sellers are required to.

For additional information or to download an infographic on tips for buying a pre-owned vehicle, 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 nearly 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 3.8 million heavy-polluting vehicles. For more information, please visit <http://www.cleanairforce.com>.

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