Pennsylvania’s
Vehicle Emissions
Inspection and
Maintenance
Program

Extend the life of your vehicle and
improve the air we breathe...

Who must participate?
Motorists with gasoline-powered cars, vans and
light-duty trucks (9,000 lbs. or less gross vehicle
weight), with a model year 1975 and newer registered in
Allegheny, Beaver, Berks, Blair, Bucks,
Cambria, Centre, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin,
Delaware, Erie, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon,
Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mercer, Montgomery,
Northampton, Philadelphia, Washington,
Westmoreland and York counties are required to
participate in Pennsylvania’s Vehicle Emissions
Inspection & Maintenance (I/M) Program.

When to get an emissions inspection...
The emissions inspection is due once a year at the
same time or before your annual safety inspection. If
your vehicle is required to undergo an emissions
inspection, the message “Emissions Inspection
Required/Diesel Vehicles Exempt” will be printed on
your vehicle registration card to remind you that an
emissions inspection is required for your vehicle.

Where to go...
As with the safety inspection, you can choose an
emissions inspection station from a network of
certified service stations, auto dealers and
neighborhood garages. You can have your emissions
and safety inspections and any required repairs done
at your favorite local station, if your station
participates in the program.

Fees...
Fees are market driven so you should shop around.
Individual stations and dealers determine the
emissions inspection fee, as they always have
for safety inspections. Stations may charge a fee for an exemption. Competition lets
you choose an inspection station based on price, service, convenience and trust.

Program at a Glance

If your vehicle doesn’t pass...
If your vehicle doesn’t pass, you must make
emissions-related repairs and have your
vehicle re-inspected before your current
safety inspection expires. Making these repairs
will not only reduce emissions, but also may help
you improve gas mileage and prolong the life of
your vehicle.

After necessary repairs are completed, the first
re-inspection will be free, as long as it is done
within 30 days at the same place that conducted the
initial inspection. If your vehicle still doesn’t pass the
inspection, and you can show that you have spent at
least $150 on emissions-related repairs, you may be
eligible for a one-year waiver. In some cases, you may
have to spend more if a major repair, such as
replacing a catalytic converter, is the only reasonable
way to address the problem. You must obtain an
emissions sticker or a waiver from a certified
inspection station and pass a safety inspection
before a safety inspection sticker can be affixed to
your vehicle.

Exemptions and Exclusions...
A vehicle driven fewer than 5,000 miles during the
12-month period immediately preceding the
inspection can qualify for an exemption if you
have owned the vehicle for one year or more.
Just take your vehicle to an inspection station to
verify your mileage and apply for an exemption
sticker. Stations may charge a fee for an exemption.
Also, if you have a new vehicle titled and registered
for the first time and driven fewer than 5,000 miles,
you can apply for an exemption sticker valid until
the next inspection is due.

Motorcycles are excluded from
the emissions inspection
program, as are vehicles
registered as classics,
antiques, collectibles,
street rods or specially
constructed.

For more information call:
1-800-265-0921
or visit our website at:
www.drivecleanpa.state.pa.us

Department of Transportation
Department of Environmental Protection

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**How the Program WORKS...**

**Northern Region**
Emissions inspections in Blair, Cambria, Centre, Erie, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, and Mercer counties will be phased-in from January thru March 2004. Vehicles in these counties will be required to have the following emissions inspections completed:

- Most 1975 and newer model-year vehicles will be required to have a Gas Cap Test and a Visual Anti-Tampering Check of the emissions components.

**Philadelphia Region**
Emissions inspection stations in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties will begin offering the On-board Diagnostic (OBD) Inspection & Maintenance (I/M) Check between April and June 2004. Vehicles in these counties are required to have the following emissions inspections completed:

- Most 1996 and newer model-year vehicles will be required to have an OBD I/M Check and a Gas Cap Test.
- Most 1981-1995 model-year cars and 1984-1995 model-year light-duty trucks will continue to be required to have an inspection with an emissions analyzer and a treadmill-like device called a dynamometer, which simulates driving conditions. This inspection also includes a Gas Cap Test and a Visual Anti-Tampering Check of the emissions components.
- Most 1975-1980* model-year cars and 1975-1983* model-year light-duty trucks will continue to be required to have an idle inspection, which measures pollutants while the engine is idling. This inspection also includes a Gas Cap Test and a Visual Anti-Tampering Check of the emissions components.

**Pittsburgh Region**
Emissions inspection stations in Allegheny, Beaver, Washington and Westmoreland counties will begin offering the On-board Diagnostic (OBD) Inspection & Maintenance (I/M) Check between January and March 2004. Vehicles in these counties are required to have the following emissions inspections completed:

- Most 1996 and newer model-year vehicles will be required to have an OBD I/M Check and a Gas Cap Test.

**South Central Region**
Emissions inspections in Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Northampton and York counties will be phased-in from December 2003 thru February 2004. Vehicles in these counties will be required to have the following emissions inspections completed:

- Most 1996 and newer model-year vehicles will be required to have an OBD I/M Check and a Gas Cap Test.
- Most 1975-1995* model-year vehicles will continue to be required to have an inspection with an emissions analyzer to measure pollutants while the engine is idling. This inspection also includes a Gas Cap Test and a Visual Anti-Tampering Check of the emissions components.

*NOTE: Vehicles 1975 and newer but older than 25 years will receive a Gas Cap Test and Visual Anti-Tampering Check.

Clean air is our goal

A great deal has been done from industry, commercial operations and vehicles to improve Pennsylvania's air quality. Although our air is getting cleaner, we still need to do more. Pennsylvania's Inspection & Maintenance Program is part of the state's plan to clean the air and keep it clean in the future.