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MEDIA CONTACT: Sara Lips
Director of Communications
Georgia Environmental Protection Division
470-524-0732
sara.lips@dnr.ga.gov

Preparation for Emissions Testing Can Increase Fuel Efficiency

ATLANTA (August 26, 2022) – With gas prices at an all-time high, preparing a vehicle for emissions inspection has an added benefit: better fuel economy.

“Georgia’s Clean Air Force provides a wealth of information for motorists to help them prepare their vehicles for the emissions testing process” said Michael Odom, Mobile & Area Sources Manager, Georgia EPD. “Many of the recommendations for inspection preparation also benefit Georgia drivers by improving overall vehicle performance and fuel efficiency.”

Suggestions include:

- 1. Keep the sealing surfaces of your fuel cap clean and in good condition.** A dirty or ill-fitting gas cap allows fuel to evaporate. In addition to wasting gas, this releases harmful pollutants into the atmosphere.
- 2. Pay attention to the “check engine” light.** Don’t delay obtaining service for a car in which the “Check Engine” light is illuminated. This can signal a failed sensor or other problem that can significantly impact both fuel economy and emissions testing.
- 3. Ensure that tires are properly inflated.** Underinflated tires increase a vehicle’s rolling resistance, which increases both fuel consumption and nitrogen oxides emissions. According to the [US Department of Energy](#), gas mileage can be improved by 0.6% on average, and up to 3% in some cases, by keeping tires inflated to the proper pressure.

To download an infographic, visit the Georgia’s Clean Air Force website at <https://cleanairforce.com/common/press>.

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 2.1 million tons of harmful ozone-forming pollutants from entering the air we breathe. The program has also identified and repaired more than 4.1 million heavy-polluting vehicles. For more information, please visit <http://www.cleanairforce.com/>.

Sources: <https://www.epa.gov/clean-air-act-overview/plain-english-guide-clean-air-act>, <https://www.atsjournals.org/doi/10.1513/AnnalsATS.201907-538CME>, <https://mitsloan.mit.edu/ideas-made-to-matter/psychological-economic-and-social-costs-air-pollution>, <https://www.epa.gov/clean-air-act-overview/clean-air-act-and-economy>

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