

CARING FOR YOUR CAR IS

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Mobile Sources - cars, trucks, planes, trains, and boats are major contributors to air pollution in Florida, especially in urban areas. Having a large number of vehicles in urban areas creates congestion on streets and highways, often forcing the construction of many miles of new roadways and resulting in still more air pollution as more vehicles use the new roads.

There are a few simple things that can be done to help maintain your car and our environment:

✓ Follow the Manufacturer's Recommended Maintenance Guidelines

- The owner's manual provides recommended maintenance intervals and product specifications for your car.
- Following the manufacturer's recommended maintenance guidelines helps identify malfunctioning parts before they cause noticeable or serious damage.
- Every car has some items that need checking on a regular basis. These items include the air filter, vacuum and coolant hoses, oil, oil filter, and other fluids.



✓ Check Engine and Emission Systems Regularly

- Caring for your car is beneficial in many ways; it delivers the added benefits of increased fuel economy, better performance, longer life, and higher resale value.
- It is important to have your engine or emissions systems checked immediately if there is a change in the way your car operates. If fuel economy seems to drop, if a warning light goes on, or if your car fails an emissions test, delay in getting a maintenance check can worsen the problem.

✓ Don't Tamper with Your Emissions Control Devices

- Tampering with your emissions controls and misfueling are violations of the Florida Clean Outdoor Air Law.
- An example of misfueling would be using leaded instead of non-leaded gasoline which can increase pollutant emissions by as much as 800 percent!
- Tampering with emission devices such as a catalytic converter not only increases emissions but also reduces overall vehicle performance and durability.

✓ Change Your Oil Regularly

- Regular oil changes are a very important aspect of automobile maintenance and environmental well being.
- Most motor oils on the market carry energy conservation or an EC label indicating they improve fuel economy by reducing engine friction. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations in choosing motor oil for your car.
- If you change the oil in your car yourself, be sure to collect it in a sturdy container and then take it to a gas station or garage that accepts waste oil. For the used oil collection center nearest you, call (800) 741-4337.

✓ Tips for Maintaining Your Car

- Keep your tires properly inflated at the pressures recommended by your vehicle manufacturer. Tire drag can increase fuel consumption from 4 to 8 percent.
- If you change your batteries yourself, when you buy a new one, take the old one to the store for a trade in.

For more information, please contact:

Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Air Resources Management (850) 488-0114

Central District	(407) 893-3333	Northeast District	(904) 448-4310
Northwest District	(850) 595-8364	South District	(941) 332-6975
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