

Motor vehicles are a major source of air pollution in the St. Louis Area.

Studies show those most affected by poor air quality are those with respiratory illnesses. When passenger vehicle emissions react with heat and sunlight, ground-level ozone is formed. Because ground-level ozone is highly reactive, high concentrations can cause throat irritation, congestion, chest pains, nausea and labored breathing for anyone exposed to this pollution.

Ozone can also aggravate the breathing of those with lung or heart conditions. Performing repairs on the vehicle before emissions issues worsen will help reduce ground-level ozone. Everyone benefits from improved air quality when the release of excessive vehicle emissions are prevented.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri State Highway Patrol jointly administer the Gateway Vehicle Inspection Program. The program is a key component of the ongoing effort to improve air quality in the St. Louis region.

For more information call or write
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Gateway Vehicle Inspection Program
St. Louis Regional Office
7545 S. Lindbergh, Suite 210
St. Louis, MO 63125
(314) 416-2115 or 1-866-OBD-TEST



**MISSOURI STATE
HIGHWAY PATROL**



**Missouri Department
of Natural Resources**



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The Gateway Vehicle Inspection Program

**Cleaner Cars on the Road and
Cleaner Air to Breathe.**

www.GatewayVIP.com





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Vehicle Emissions Testing

A key component of the ongoing effort to improve air quality in the St. Louis region.

Missouri motorists will be able to get auto emissions tests and safety inspections at licensed auto shops located throughout the St. Louis ozone nonattainment area.

The Gateway Vehicle Inspection Program is part of Missouri's continuing effort to improve air quality in the St. Louis region. The Gateway Vehicle Inspection Program is a combined emissions test and safety inspection program for vehicles registered in the St. Louis ozone nonattainment area.

The nonattainment area does not meet the federal health-based air quality standards for ground-level ozone, a strong lung irritant. The area includes St. Louis City and Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles and St. Louis counties.

All 1996 and newer gas-powered vehicles and 1997 and newer diesel-powered vehicles 8,500 pounds or less Gross Vehicle Weight Rating registered in the St. Louis nonattainment area will be subject to an emissions test and safety inspection.

Vehicles manufactured today are designed to operate more cleanly than the new vehicles of 1970. It is important, however, for motorists to perform regular preventive maintenance on their vehicle no matter the age. This will save motorists money and reduce potentially costly repairs. Following a manufacturer's recommended maintenance schedule helps a clean-running vehicle perform better and benefits everyone's health by preventing harmful emissions from polluting the environment. A poorly maintained or malfunctioning vehicle can release as much as 10 times the pollution of a well-maintained vehicle.

Vehicles 1995 and older will be exempt from the emissions testing process; however, a safety inspection will still be required. The impact on ground-level ozone from these older vehicles will continue to decrease as these vehicles become a smaller percent of the fleet and are phased-out.

The Gateway Vehicle Inspection Program will use On-Board Diagnostics or OBDII testing to conduct the emissions test. This advanced computer inspection system will determine whether vehicles pass or fail the emissions test.

OBDII is an early-warning system that identifies current and developing emissions-related issues. The system helps ensure the emission control system is operating correctly and detects problems that may not be noticeable upon visual inspection.

OBDII systems provide valuable emissions information that allows motorists to invest in needed repairs and preventive maintenance to ensure that their vehicle continues to perform efficiently. The outcome of the Gateway Vehicle Inspection Program will be cleaner cars on the road and cleaner air for everyone to breathe.

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