



# Car Care News

## SPRING 2009

Phone:  
973-887-2140

Hours of operation:  
Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:30pm  
Sat 8:30am-2:00pm

Website:  
[www.peaceofmindauto.com](http://www.peaceofmindauto.com)

**Peace of Mind**  
automotive



24hr Towing

**Peace of Mind Automotive**  
709 Lake Shore Dr  
Parsippany, NJ 07054

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
PSI

John Smith  
1376 Lead Hill Blvd., Suite 150  
Roseville, CA 95661-1234



## Spring has Sprung

Springtime has come at last. Finally we can go back outside and do the things we like to do without cold winter weather keeping us inside. But before we start flitting around like busy springtime bees, there is one thing we need to do: We need to get our vehicles checked out. Doing so will help make sure our fun-filled buzzing about doesn't leave us stranded on the side of the road.

The fact is, winter can be hard on our cars, and, let's be honest, when it's cold and nasty outside, we don't always take our cars in for the maintenance work we should. But the sun is out now, so before we get caught up in the summer rush, this is a great time to do a little seasonal check up on our cars and take care of the leftover business from wintertime, things like:

**Changing engine oil** – In many areas, your last oil change may have included using a wintertime viscosity grade of oil. It's time to get that replaced!

**Check your cooling system** – The hot weather of summer is coming fast, make sure your cooling system is properly filled and the hoses are all in dependable shape.

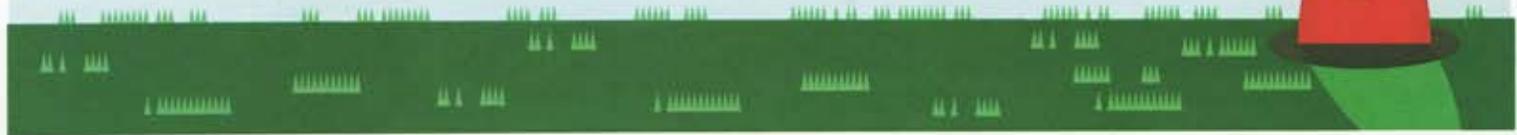
**Check your battery and charging system** – Corrosion built up over the winter can cause starting and charging problems. Let us take a look to make sure your car will start reliably.

**Brake inspection** – Stopping can be even more important than "going" when you think about it. A brake inspection can make sure the brakes are working great on your vehicle.

**Tire check** – Cold weather driving creates situations that can be hard on tires. Tire-

chains, slipping and sliding, and even just the drastic change in temperature makes it a good idea to have the tires checked before you hit the springtime roads.

**Lights** – As the days get longer and brighter, you have fewer opportunities to notice whether your car's lights are working properly or not. Let us check all your lights so you don't get caught in the dark.



## It's Cheaper to Keep Her!

That older car of yours has served you pretty well these last few years, but the final payment is getting close – or maybe your car has been paid off for the last year or two or three. So now it's time for a new one, right? Well, before you run down and replace the "old girl" there are a few things you might want to consider first.

According to the Car Care Council, the average vehicle price now is over \$20,000. That's a substantial chunk of change! And with the way things are going in the current economy, you could be buying a car from a dealership whose business might not be there six months from now. Why take the risk – much less take on such a huge expense – when a few dollars spent with us could get your old car back running just like new?

You can literally save thousands and thousands of dollars by just fixing up the car you have.

*"I know it makes sense not to take on new car payments in this economy, but*

*I want the fun gadgets I could get in a new car – things like GPS and maybe a digital stereo. I don't have that stuff in my old car!"*

Well, you don't have to spend over \$20,000 to get all the fun gizmos and fashion accessories on your car. The simple fact is, by keeping the car you've already paid for and fixing it up a bit, you can use some of the thousands and thousands of dollars you save to put all sorts of fun accessories on your ride. In a shaky economy, the safe bet is usually the better choice. Bring your car in for a thorough inspection and let us get your car back like new: safe and reliable. Once you have it running reliably, take that massive amount of money you have saved and get yourself all the fun features that you want!

## Wash Away the Winter Grime – tips for washing your car



### Use automotive cleaning products

Many people use dish washing soaps or other household cleaners, but those items aren't designed for cars and often contain ingredients that can be harmful to the finish of your car. Automotive cleaning products are made especially for cars, and they are widely available from retail stores and online.

### Cleaning the wheels and tires

Tires and wheels are covered with road grit and brake dust, and it's a great idea to clean them well. However, this grit has a nasty way of sticking to your cloth, sponge,

mitt, or brush and can do harmful things to the finish of your car. Make sure you don't use the same cloth, sponge, mitt, or brush for cleaning the rest of your vehicle that you have used on the tires and wheels.

### Don't forget to dry

When you're done washing it down and have rinsed it off well, dry your car with a chamois or a soft towel so your car doesn't get water spots. Minerals in water can leave unattractive deposits on your vehicle that can be very hard to remove later on. Wash your car in a shady area, and you'll have more time to dry your car off right—out of the direct sun which can evaporate water too fast and leave water spots behind.

### Wax is your friend

A proper coat of wax not only protects your car's finish, it protects your investment too. According to the Kelley Blue Book not waxing your car is akin to "leaving money on the table at trade-in time, as a clean, well-maintained car can be worth up to 50 percent more than one in 'fair' condition."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> As quoted on the Car Care Council website, [http://carcare.org/wash\\_wax](http://carcare.org/wash_wax).

## Traffic Light Trivia

1. The first traffic signal was installed in Cleveland, Ohio in what year?

- (a) 1914      (b) 1924  
(c) 1934      (d) 1944

2. Quick, and without looking: On a vertically aligned traffic light, where is the green light?

- (a) Top    (b) Middle    (c) Bottom

3. What is the technical name for the color of the center light on a traffic signal?

- (a) Amber      (b) Yellow  
(c) Ochre      (d) Orange

Answers

1. a 2. c 3. b\* (\*Based on a sampling of the Department of Transportation and various state DMV sources)

## R' ODE TO SPRING

With springtime comes a warmer sun  
And road trips that you take for fun.  
But before you go, you should prepare,  
And check your car for winter wear.

Put that off and you might find  
It's a tow truck that your car's behind,  
And not just following for a look  
But actually dangling from the hook.

Cars need check ups; it is true,  
The very same services that we do,  
So let us check your car out first  
And save your road trips from the worst.



Present this Coupon and Receive

**\$25.00 OFF**  
**Any Service Over**  
**\$250.00**

Expires 05/09/09. Not valid with any other offers. Please present coupon at time of service.



**Spring Service Special**  
**Starting at \$24.95**

- \* Lube, Oil & Filter (up to 5 qts)
  - \* Check Fluid Levels
  - \* Check Cooling and Air Conditioning Systems
  - \* Check Belts & Hoses
  - \* Check Tires, Brakes & Wheel Alignment
- Offer valid on most cars and light trucks. Some conditions may apply. Must present coupon. Expires 05/09/09.