



HAVE YOUR CAR READY FOR SPRING!

Spring: Time to Check Your Automobile's Health

Winter-weary motorists eager to enjoy a spring drive should be aware that while winter storms finally may be gone, the effects of the season's snow, ice and salt haven't disappeared from roadways.

Automotive suspension systems and tires in particular take a beating from potholes, pavement separations and expansions, and loose concrete resulting from winter's elements.

To get the most from your car tires and suspension without sacrificing safety, here are some telltale signs of wear that you can check for yourself.

*** Tires have uneven wear and gashes** - Uneven or cupped wear often indicates worn-out shocks, struts, steering or suspension parts.

A car's steering can be put out of alignment in a number of ways, from a collision with

a sidewalk curb when parking to a jolt from a highway pothole. Check the inside and outside walls for cuts, bubbles or blemishes and the tread for cuts or lodged obstacles that can puncture your tires.

Proper inflation goes a long way in protecting tires from road hazards, assures proper tire wear and improves gasoline mileage. Look at the side of the driver's door for a sticker that indicates the proper inflation level for your tires. If you are experiencing a loss of air pressure, this may indicate a damaged tire, broken mounting bead or bent rim, which all can lead to more serious problems.

*** Car bounces, sways or sags when stopping or cornering** - Worn-out suspension parts cause abnormal drift, sway and bounce, particularly when cornering. If

your car sags, sways or "dives" when braking, or has a harsh, bumpy ride - especially after hitting a bump or pothole - your shocks, struts and suspension parts may be worn.

*** Car pulls to one side when driving** - A car that steers or pulls to one side may be out of alignment, may be driving on tires that are unevenly or heavily worn, or may indicate rack-and-pinion or power-steering problems.

What Can You Do?

If your car tires or suspension show signs of excessive wear, take the car to a reputable service center.

Wet Weather Driving Advice

When it comes to driving, few things can be more stressful than setting out on a long trip in a driving rainstorm. A number of accidents can be avoided if drivers had make a few adjustments to their normal driving routine. Following are a few basic suggestions to help you improve your driving when the roads get soggy:

*** Reduce your speed.** This will help your tires' tread to get a better grip on the road, enabling the tread grooves to channel water more effectively. Slowing down also will help reduce the risk of hydroplaning - a condition in which the tires ride on water rather than the road's surface. If you feel a sudden loss of control, ease up on the accelerator - avoid using the brakes.

*** Maintain a safe distance.** It's important to re-

member that you need more stopping distance on wet pavement. Focus on the road ahead and allow yourself enough room to react to emergency situations. This margin of safety could protect your life.

*** Consider using a glass treatment.** Wipers do a competent job, but recent advances in technology have created glass treatments de-

signed to improve visibility when it rains.

The treatment causes water to bead, forcing it to roll off the windshield more quickly than on untreated glass. The effect of this beading action is most dramatic at night, when the product effectively helps to reduce glare from approaching headlights and streetlights.

QUEEN'S TIRE & SERVICE LTD.

FIRE SALE PRICES

\$110⁰⁰ Sug. Retail \$170.70

INSTALLED & BALANCED

FIRESTONE WILDERNESS AT O.W.L.
Size P235 75 15

387 Queen St. E. 519-8533940
ACTON

Bring in ad and receive an additional \$5.00 Off

Action AUTO

The Garage with the "Personal Touch"

David Wilson Owner/Operator
Ted Saitz Owner/Operator

255 Main Street North
Acton
(519) 853-3261

Simple Spring Car Checks

Following are some basic items you should be sure to check on a weekly basis, courtesy of "The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Car Repair" (alpha books), by Dan Ramsey.

*** Oil level** - Circulated in the engine, oil keeps the car's engine parts lubricated and prevents them from wearing out. When the engine is off, the oil settles to the oil pan under the hood. The oil-pan stick or dipstick will indicate the oil level and whether or not the oil needs to be refilled.

*** Coolant level** - A mixture of antifreeze fluid and water, coolant (located under the hood of the car) circulates throughout the car's engine to remove excess heat. It then circulates throughout the radiator, where the airflow cools it before it returns through the engine.

*** Windshield-washer fluid level** - Stored in a container or reservoir beneath the hood of the car, windshield-washer fluid keeps the windshield clean. If you expect to be able to see while driving, make sure that the fluid never falls below its appropriate level.

*** Power-steering fluid level** - If your car has power steering, power-steering fluid is what makes the car easier to steer with less effort. The fluid usually is stored in a reservoir under the car's hood.

*** Brake fluid levels** - Hydraulic fluid, or brake fluid, is used by the car's hydraulic system to magnify the pressure of your foot on the brake pedal to stop the car. The fluid is located in the master brake cylinder, usually under the hood of the car.

*** Tires and pressure** - Underinflated tires reduce fuel economy, while excessive pressure makes tires

wear unevenly, reducing their usable life. The tire gauge indicates how much pressure is in the tire and whether you'll need to add more air.

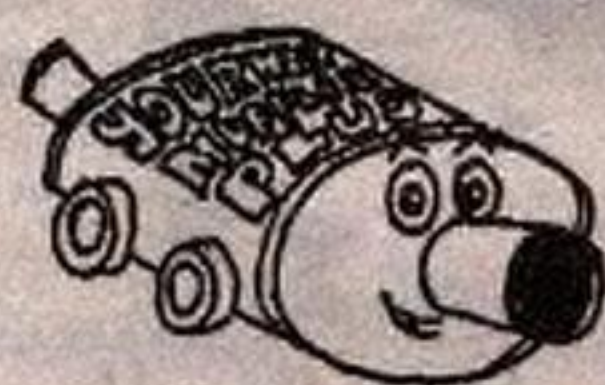
Toth Motors

Towing
Lock out Service
Gas Bar - with Great Prices

12 Guelph St., Acton

519 **853-1840**

Serving Acton motorists since 1951



YOURWAY MUFFLER PLUS

ACTON'S ONLY EXHAUST SPECIALIST

LUBE, OIL, FILTER

\$19⁹⁵

NEW & USED TIRES ON SPECIAL

FREE BRAKE OR EXHAUST INSPECTIONS ANYTIME!

- Custom Pipe Bending
- Licensed Safety Inspection Station

17 Agnes St. Acton

853-0900



Firestone

PERFORMANCE YOU CAN TRUST

BRIDGESTONE



Spring SAVINGS

29 POINT INSPECTION

INCLUDES:

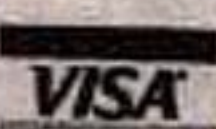
OIL-LUBE-FILTER
ROTATE TIRES
TOP UP ALL LEVELS

\$24⁹⁵

NEW & USED TIRES TUNE-UP SPECIALS

HALTON HILLS TIRE CENTRE LTD.

68 Main Street North,
Moore Park Plaza, Georgetown



905-877-5110-9

Established since 1979

