



Exhaust Notes

VOLUME 4 NO. 1 – PUBLICATION NUMBER 14-02-003

SPRING 2014

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Welcome Barbara Freeman!

Ecology's Emission Check Program would like to introduce Barbara Freeman. Barbara previously worked for Applus Technologies, most recently as the manager of the Everett test station. Ecology is excited to have Barbara on board.

Trip permits offer customers a lifeline

If you read *Exhaust Notes* regularly, you know Ecology's Emission Check Program encourages testing early. No doubt you also know customers do not always heed this advice.

Procrastination is a tough habit to break. Fortunately, Department of Licensing (DOL) offers trip permits for drivers who do not complete the emission testing process before tabs expire.

What is a trip permit?

A trip permit allows a vehicle owner limited driving privileges without renewing tabs. This enables the vehicle owner to drive to a test station and an Ecology-authorized repair shop if necessary. If the driver is pulled over for expired tabs, showing the trip permit will



ensure that the driver is not issued a ticket.

A two-day transit permit is free—if obtained from a county licensing office. A subagent will charge a five dollar service fee. The transit permit is only good for the two days specified on the permit. A driver can choose these days in advance.

If a vehicle owner needs more time to complete the testing process, DOL offers a 3-day trip permit for \$25. The vehicle owner can purchase a 3-day trip permit in advance of the dates needed. The permit is only good for the dates specified.

9 Authorized Test Facilities (ATFs) now open

Vehicle owners in the Puget Sound region have nine options in addition to the test stations.

The latest addition is **Hans VW Repair** in West Seattle. This repair shop performs OBD tests only.

Hans VW joins the following Authorized Test Facilities in Washington:

- ◆ Precision Tune Gig Harbor (full service)
- ◆ Precision Tune University Place (full service)
- ◆ Precision Tune Lakewood (OBD, TSI)

- ◆ Precision Tune Tacoma (full service)
- ◆ System Seven (diesel only)
- ◆ Juanita Firs (OBD, TSI)
- ◆ T Auto Repair (OBD, TSI)
- ◆ Lee Johnson Auto Family (OBD, TSI)

Shops labeled "full service" perform OBD, TSI, and diesel tests. Three ATFs offer all three types of tests. Four offer OBD and TSI only.

Test stations are available in all areas requiring emission tests. But many customers appreciate

having options closer to where they live and work.

Interested in becoming an authorized tester? Contact Applus Technologies at: WAATF@Applus.com or call 253-395-1177.

If you are an authorized tester, or are considering becoming one, see the helpful hints on page 3.



Training Spotlight

Keep Your Authorization Current

Interested in becoming an Authorized Emission Specialist? Is it time to update your AES training? If so, these instructors offer Ecology-authorized training.

Contact instructors for class availability and cost.

Clark County

Milt Stoddard
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King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties

Nolan Koreski — Lake Washington Technical College
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Remember, you must take an Ecology-authorized training every two years to stay in the AES program.

If you have questions about training, please contact emission check staff listed for your county on page 4.

Tips for Technicians



Helpful Hints for ATFs

Does your shop offer emission tests? If so, here are some suggestions to help your business get the most out of participating in the program.

- All heavy-duty gasoline vehicles (GVWR > 8500lbs) get two speed idle (TSI) tests. If you see 8 lug nuts on a wheel, always check the door sticker for GVWR. Your monitor should display a TSI test when you test a vehicle >8500 lbs. If not, contact Applus.
- When performing an OBDII test, make sure the vehicle's key has been removed from the ignition for at least 30 seconds before connecting to the DLC. Failure to do so may cause damage in some vehicles. The ATF would be financially liable for such damage.
- Only **Applus Test Stations** can issue waivers. ATFs, Department of Licensing staff



and subagents, and county licensing agents cannot issue waivers.

- These vehicles should not receive the OBD test. If one of these vehicles does not default to TSI, contact Applus at 253-395-1177.
 - ◆ 1996 – Subaru
 - ◆ 1996 – 1998 Mitsubishi
 - ◆ 1996 – 1998 Saab
 - ◆ 1996 – Nissan
 - ◆ 1996 – Infiniti
 - ◆ 1996 – 1998 Volvo
 - ◆ Up to 2004 Lamborghini

The equipment software should always indicate these vehicles get a TSI test. In the future, Ecology may identify other vehicles with OBD problems that are not on this list. To be on the safe side, the tester should perform the test indicated by the equipment software. If you have any questions, contact Applus.

Following these tips will help you avoid some of the pitfalls of operating as an authorized tester. You will have happier customers and fewer paperwork hassles.

Readiness Devices

The last issue of Exhaust Notes featured an article on readiness devices your shop could purchase to alert drivers when monitors are ready. Ecology encourages using these devices because they take the guesswork out of determining when a vehicle's OBD system is "ready." This can save vehicle owners time and frustration.

Applus Test Stations can also loan readiness devices to customers. They require a credit card and a refundable deposit.

Test stations have a limited number of readiness devices. Customers should ask about availability.

Of course a readiness device will help only if a vehicle's tabs have not expired. Which is why we like to

remind vehicle owners to test early. Remember, an emission test is valid up to a year before tabs expire.



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If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Air Quality Program at 360-407-6800. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.

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Emission Check 
You're on the Road to Cleaner Air.