

# **INSPECTIONS NEWSLETTER FALL 2017**

## PENNSYLVANIA EMISSIONS INSPECTION PROGRAM **OBD & Visual Emissions Equipment Specification Changes**

PennDOT has updated the specifications for OBD & Visual equipment for authorized Emissions Inspection Stations. Equipment manufacturers are now in the process of retooling their software and hardware to meet the new specifications and be certified for purchase.



### Stations are advised not to purchase equipment from any manufacturer until they are "Certified & Approved for Sale."

WIRED HIGH SPEED INTERNET CONNECTION REQUIRED

communication. In most cases, cable, satellite and DSL companies are able to provide a connection that has sufficient high-speed. There must be a wired connection from the router/modem to the emission inspection equipment. The internet service itself

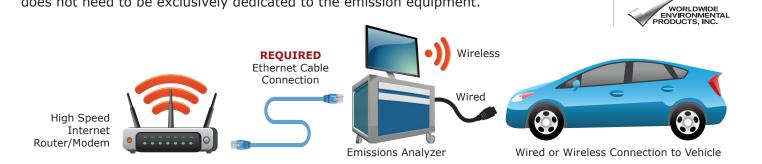
In addition to the new OBD & Visual equipment, inspection stations will also be required to have a "wired" high speed internet connection for equipment

does not need to be exclusively dedicated to the emission equipment.

PARTICIPATING EOUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS

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HAVE QUESTIONS? Contact the Inspection Station Operator Hotline at 888-265-5909

# 2018-19 Inspection Stickers Now Available ອ 😔

In September 2017, the Department began issuing the new 2018-19 safety and emissions inspection stickers. The 2018-19 stickers may be used simultaneously with the 2017-18 stickers. The 2017-18 stickers may be used for inspections on vehicles with registration expiry dates up to December 2017.

The 2018-19 stickers are needed by November 1st for vehicles with registration expiry dates of January 2018 and later. Once you begin to use the new 2018-19 stickers, a separate MV431 or MV480 must be started.







### Fee Adjustment For Safety Inspection Stickers

Effective July 1, 2017 the fee adjustment for the annual safety inspection stickers was from \$6.00 to \$7.00 and the fee for the semi-annual stickers was adjusted from \$4.00 to \$5.00. Official Inspection Stations may charge \$2.00 plus the purchase price of the sticker in effect at the time of replacement for windshield replacement stickers. There is no charge for Emission Stickers.

Effective July 1, 2017, updated fee schedule signs are to be posted. PennDOT may limit the number of stickers shipped if requests are determined to be excessive, based on usage and prior order history. Please ensure the MV-436A is completed properly, to include the authorized signature, operator number, and the \$5 shipping/handling fee with your order. Incomplete requisitions received without the proper information or fee risk being returned and delivery may be delayed.

## Ordering & Tracking Inspection Stickers

Please allow 14 business days for delivery of your inspection stickers before calling to check on your order status. We understand our timely fulfillment of your order is of the utmost importance. If you would like to receive an email notification for tracking your sticker order, please include your email address in the proper field on the MV-436A. We will add your email address into our shipping database. When we prepare your package for shipment, an email will be sent to you with the UPS tracking information.

#### MV-436A Inspection Sticker and Insert Order Form

The MV-436A Inspection Sticker and Insert Order Form have been updated to reflect the fee adjustments and are available on the Department's website. <u>http://www.dmv.pa.gov/</u> <u>VEHICLE-SERVICES/Inspection-Information/</u> <u>Emissions-Inspection-Program/Pages/default.aspx</u>

#### Questions, please contact the Vehicle Inspection Division at (717) 787-2895.



# Tire Inspection QuestionsUnsafe Tires for ASM TestingImage: Sector StructureImage: Sector

Vehicles subject to ASM testing may not be tested with space-saver spare tires, studded tires or any other tire on the drive wheels that are in an obviously unsafe condition. If a customer seeks an ASM test on a vehicle that has studded tires, the inspector must inform the customer of the safety issue. The vehicle owner may choose to have the studded tires removed, install non-studded tires, and then proceed with the test. Rotating tires from the drive wheels to the nondrive wheels for the purpose of emissions testing, and then reinstalling the tires in their original location, is acceptable. (Stations should discuss any additional charges for this service with their customer before proceeding.)

# How to Determine if a Tire is too Small to Pass Inspection

Regulations indicate to "Reject-if... A tire is smaller than the manufacturer's recommended minimum size or below the manufacturer's recommended load rating".

To determine if a tire is "...smaller than the manufacturer's recommended minimum size...", you may advise the station manager/inspector that they need to determine if the tire on the vehicle, at the time of inspection, has an overall outside diameter smaller than the manufacturers recommended minimum diameter, based on the original tire size. If it is smaller in diameter, then that tire would not pass the safety inspection because it does not meet the minimum requirements.

There are a variety of resources that can be used in determining tire-diameter based on the tire size, such as tire manufacturer or tire retailer websites, web-based tire diameter calculators, tire diameter calculator "smart-phone" applications, and printed tire specification charts which are typically available from parts stores and tool suppliers.

# Monthly Emissions (3) (3) & E-Safety ACH Billing – Important Information

Emission and e-Safety invoices are usually posted to your online account by the end of the first normal business day each month. If that day is a holiday, they will be posted by the end of the next business day. In order to avoid late fees and/or the risk of being locked out for failure-to-pay, please make sure that by the 21st of each month, you have sufficient funds in the account you have registered with Parsons (PennDOT's Emission Program Manager) for ACH withdrawal.

Depending on your bank, the withdrawal could take up to five days to process, so please make sure the funds are available for an appropriate period of time. If the 21st falls on a Sunday or holiday, the draw will occur on the next business day. Should you have the need to change your bank account information, please download the "ACH Billing Change Authorization Form" form from the landing page of the PA DriveClean Portal website (www.padrivecleanportal.com), and follow the instructions on the form. This form must be completed and received by Parsons by the 15th of the month in order to properly process the ACH to a new account by the 21st of the month. If starting a new bank account, please make sure that Parsons is authorized to draw on the account, in order to avoid any delays in payment. Should you have any billing related questions, or are having difficulty accessing your online invoice, please contact the Station Operator Hotline (1-888-265-5909) for assistance.



### **Electronic Proof of Insurance**

For safety inspection purposes, a "hard S copy" proof of insurance is not always necessary. Stations should accept the information electronically, when provided in lieu of paper. Inspectors must accept proof of insurance in an electronic format on an electronic device. Keep in mind that the owner of the electronic device assumes liability for any damage to the device while in possession of the inspector.

Reminder: Proof of insurance is not required for emissions tests.

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### PARSONS

5340 Jaycee Avenue Suite E Harrisburg, PA 17112



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PARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# **Important Vehicle Inspection Information**

## **Pennsylvania's Vehicle Inspection Program**

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