

Spring...on the ROAD



A Special Supplement to **Siuslaw News**

Get On Track With Maintenance

During the busy holiday season, it can be easy to forget about scheduled maintenance of your vehicle. Now that spring is here, it's a good time to get back in control of the health of your vehicle.

Regular maintenance is required for your vehicle to operate efficiently and safely. Just like we require scheduled visits to the doctor, a mechanic can discover and resolve problems your car might be experiencing before they become serious.

Commonly Ignored Maintenance

When forgetting or ignoring the general service your vehicle requires, you could be greatly reducing its longevity. A survey conducted by the Car Care Council showed statistics

of common problems cars experience when service goes ignored. They include:

- 25 percent of cars had low or dirty engine oil.
- 17 percent had inadequate cooling protection or low coolant levels.
- 16 percent required new wiper blades, while 27 percent had low or dirty washer fluid.
- Overall, 89 percent of vehicles needed at least one repair or service.

Operating your vehicle without proper maintenance can put great stress on the important

components that make it run efficiently. Schedule an appointment with a professional to create a dedicated service schedule based on your vehicle's specifications.

Importance of Fluid Levels

Your vehicle requires several fluids to keep different parts running as they were intended. You're probably most familiar with engine oil, as it is part of routine maintenance.

During an oil change, it is common practice for a mechanic to top off other fluids that assist



power steering, braking and cooling.

Another hard-working part of a vehicle requires proper fluid levels: the transmission.

An automatic transmission depends on fluid to lubricate and serve as coolant for the intricate components that make a transmission operate.

Since general service dates can differ from manufacturers, it's

important to check your owner's manual and find their recommendations.

To check your fluid for capacity and signs of deterioration (dark in color, burned smell) you can follow these steps for most automatic transmissions.

1. Park vehicle on a level surface with the engine running.

2. Locate the transmission dipstick and remove

it from the tube. Wipe it clean and reinsert.

3. Now remove it again and observe the indicator markings on the end of the tube.

4. If low, you can fill it in the same tube that holds the dipstick.

If your capacities are at low levels, be sure to have a qualified mechanic find out why. There may be a leaking seal that needs replaced.



Hoberg's Auto Repair celebrates 71 years of service

Hoberg's Auto Repair is here to help you with all of your car's needs; from routine oil changes to major car repairs they have been doing this for more than 71 years.

As third generation owners, Kevin and Shasta McMullen want to continue the family tradition with friendly, honest hometown service to their customers with a smile.

These are changing times and we must keep our vehicles working. So doing preventative maintenance is a must. Changing your oil regularly and having a safety check done, can catch the "big things" before they happen. Testing your battery once a year before it strands you. Making sure there are no leaks in your exhaust system because carbon monoxide is a poisonous, odorless gas. Changing your wiper blades before they scratch your windshield, and making sure all your lights & horn work properly.

Also, if your car overheats, stop as soon as possible and turn off the engine and let it cool down. Overheating causes 85 percent of the major damage to engines.

So come by and let Kevin or James help you out with all your car's needs at 345 Highway 101 in Florence, or call 541-997-2413.



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