

# Clean Air Notes



## Registration open for upcoming Tech Nights

Limited seating is available, so register early for the two upcoming Tech Nights to be presented by John Thornton. Both classes will be held at the Envirotest Systems Training Center located in Crown Point at 1171 Breuckman Drive, Suite B.

Toyota Enhanced Evaporative Systems  
Thursday, November 8, 2007 – 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Diagnosis and Repair of NOx Failures  
Monday, December 16, 2007 – 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Call 1-888-240-1684 or 219-661-8269 to register.



## Clean Air Car Check's Upcoming Holiday Closings

Please take note, that all Clean Air Car Check emissions testing facilities will be closed for the following holidays:

**Tuesday, Nov. 6** – Election Day

**Monday, Nov. 12** – Veteran's Day

**Thursday, Nov. 22 thru Sat., Nov. 24** – Thanksgiving  
**Monday, Dec. 24 & Tuesday, Dec. 25** – Christmas  
**Tuesday, Jan. 1** – New Year's Day



## America Recycles Day will be celebrated the week of November 19th

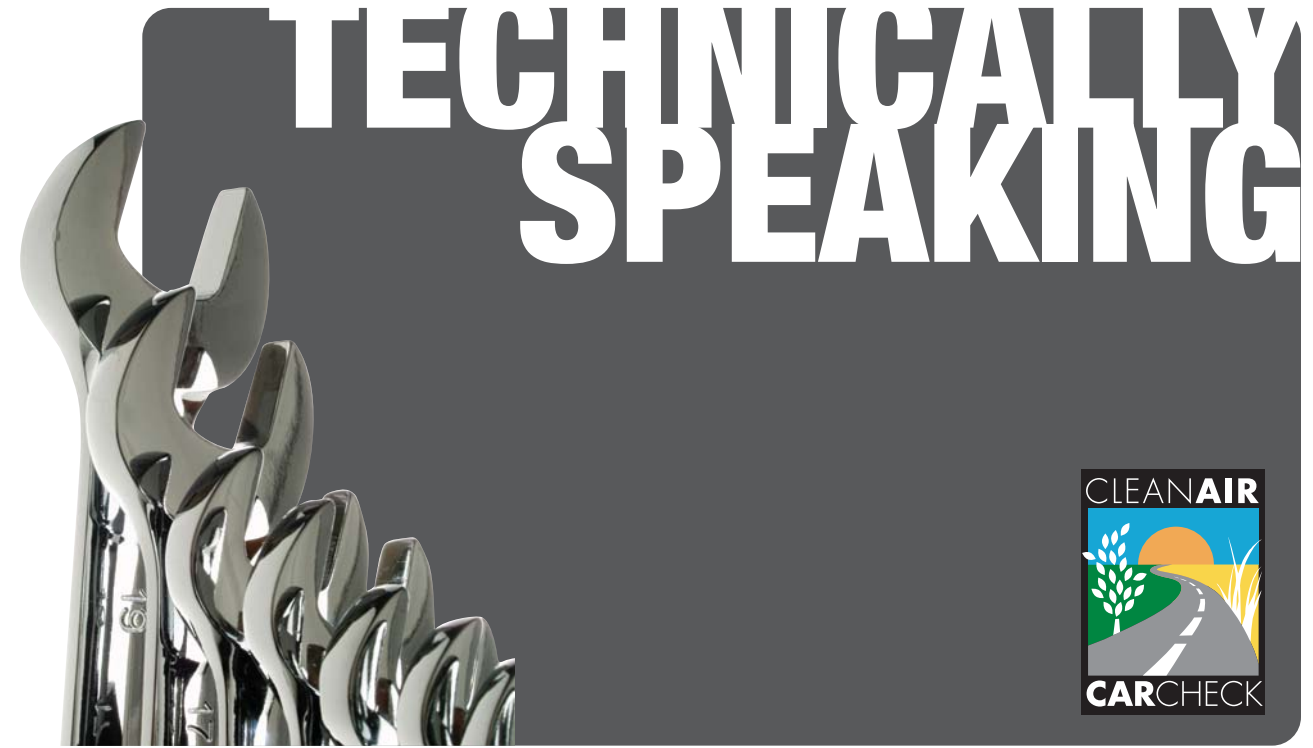
America Recycles Day is an annual event that recognizes the importance of recycling for preserving and protecting our natural resources for ourselves and future generation. As environmental stewards, Clean Air Car Check celebrates America Recycles Day by promoting recycling at all of our test facilities.

The first 200 customers at each facility the week of November 19th will receive an environmentally friendly tote bag that can be used instead of traditional paper or plastic grocery or shopping bags.

You can keep it for yourself, or pass it along to your customer, but more importantly it can be used again and again in place of throw away bags. 🗑️



Clean Air Car Check  
Envirotest Systems  
1171 Breuckman Dr.  
Suite B  
Crown Point, IN 46307



# Transmission codes can signal emission related problems

You may hear disbelief from your customers if their vehicle has failed emissions because of a transmission code, rather than what they would consider an emissions problem. Most motorists do not understand what the transmission has to do with what is coming out of the tailpipe.

If the MIL is commanded on for a transmission code, the code is indeed emission related. The OBDII system monitors all powertrain components that effect emissions, or provide diagnostic input, or receive commands from the PCM.

The transmission controls the amount of power going from the engine to the wheels. If the transmission is malfunctioning, the efficiency of the power transfer is compromised causing the vehicle to work harder to provide the same amount of vehicle speed. When the engine works harder, it needs more fuel which causes greater emissions. If

**"If the transmission is malfunctioning, the efficiency of the power transfer is compromised causing the vehicle to work harder to provide the same amount of vehicle speed."**

the sensors that monitor the transmission are not functioning properly, the PCM can not tell if the transmission is working properly, resulting in the MIL being commanded on. The decision to include these sensors is made by the manufacturers, in conjunction with the EPA.

Transmission codes can also be triggered by an engine misfire. Most vehicles identify misfire by using the crankshaft position sensor to detect even slight fluctuations in crankshaft acceleration and rotation. Because shifting on rough roads

can cause false readings, some manufacturers unlock the torque converter clutch when the vehicle experiences strong road vibration. If the transmission is not functioning properly, the torque-converter might be triggered to unlock prematurely, resulting in an engine misfire that could go undetected. 🗑️

JOHN THORNTON PRESENTS

# Evaporative System Diagnosis and Repair Techniques

Clean Air Car Check recently hosted two presentations by John Thornton on domestic and Asian enhanced evaporative systems.

The first presentation on domestic enhanced evap systems included information on how medium and small leak codes are prevalent, but hard to diagnose. Thornton explained how the evaporative system works, as well as discussed case studies and diagnostic techniques. Various equipment strategies were discussed, including the use of smoke machines and manometers.

During the second session Thornton taught attendees about how Asian evap systems differ from their domestic counterparts. He also explained how the code criteria and testing techniques are also different.

Both classes were well attended and the technicians in attendance participated heavily in the discussion.

Don't miss.....

## Diagnostic Techniques for Toyota Enhanced Evaporative Systems

November, 8, 2007  
6 p.m. – 10 p.m.  
Registration and refreshments at 6 p.m.  
Class starts promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Envirotest Systems Training Center  
1171 Breuckman Dr., Suite B  
Crown Point, IN 46307

Seating is limited. Call 1-888-240-1684 (661-8269) to register by November 5th.

# Repair Industry Assistance is Needed for the New HC Leak Inspection

Some of you may have noticed a Hydrocarbon Leak Inspection form stapled to the back of the Vehicle Inspection Report. This form is an important tool for the Clean Air Car Check program to track the success of the Hydrocarbon Leak Inspection procedure that is currently being piloted.

While we are developing thresholds to determine which vehicles will undergo this additional inspection, all vehicles that are failing for Hydrocarbons will be sniffed with a hydrocarbon detection device. If any leaks or potential leaks are discovered during this inspection they will be indicated on the form and we will note the parts per mil-

lion reading from the detection unit.

There is small box on the form that we are asking all technicians to complete. Please answer the questions to the best of your ability so that we can collect data that will help us streamline the HC Leak Inspection process for our customers, while helping the repair industry by identifying potential contributors to HC failures.

If you have any questions about the procedure or how to properly complete the technician portion of the form, contact the Quality Assurance manager at 219-661-5455.

# Indiana Certified Emission Repair Facility Update

The Clean Air Car Check program would like to congratulate three local repair facilities for being added to the list of Indiana Certified Emission Repair Facilities. These facilities, in addition to owning the required equipment, employ at least one technician who has successfully completed the Indiana Certified Emission Repair Technician training. This distinction means that these shops are included on a list of repair facilities that are authorized to perform emissions repair work that can count toward a minimum expenditure waiver. This list is distributed to all customers whose vehicle fails the emission test.

**Bruce May and Jim Rosenbauer**  
**Hirata's Lowell Automotive & Radiator**  
9414 W 181st Ave., Lowell, IN  
219-696-1017

Bruce May and Jim Rosenbauer from Hirata's in Lowell both earned their Indiana Certified Emission Repair Technician credentials this fall. Bruce completed the course with a perfect score. Both Bruce and Jim are ASE Master Certified Technicians and hold their L1 Advanced Engine Performance certifications through ASE. With 26 years of experience in the repair industry, Jim is currently the manager of Hirata's. He has been with the shop for eight years. Bruce has nearly ten years experience in the field and has worked at Hirata's for over seven years.



Pictured from left: Bruce May, Dave Hirata (owner) and Jim Rosenbauer

**Andy Funk**  
**Dean's Tire and Automotive**  
1603 S. Calumet Rd., Chesterton, IN  
219-929-4289

Andy Funk successfully completed the Indiana Certified Emission Repair Technician course and earned his shop, Dean's Tire and Automotive, a place on the certified shop list. Andy is an ASE Master Certified Technician and has his L1 certification as well. He has spent more than 25 years in the repair industry and has been with Dean's for the last three years. Prior to that, Andy spent the majority of his career working as a technician in the service departments of local dealerships.



Pictured from left: Dean Biddle (owner) and Andy Funk

**Marty Thacker**  
**MTI Service Center**  
805 N. County Road 330 West, Valparaiso, IN  
219-762-4427

Marty Thacker, owner of MTI Service Center in Valparaiso, earned his Indiana Certified Emission Repair Technician certification and got his shop added to the list of Indiana's certified emission repair facilities. Marty has owned his own shop for the last six years and worked in GM dealerships for 12 years prior to that. He is an ASE Master Certified Technician and a GM Master Technician. He also holds L1 Advanced Engine Performance certification through ASE.



Pictured: Marty Thacker