

Car Care Corner

The Road To A Long-Lasting Automobile

(NAPSA)—Auto technicians say the key to keeping vehicles running well—today and down the road—is routine maintenance. Yet many drivers tend to stall when it comes to keeping up with some everyday auto-basics.

A recent survey by the Car Care Council found:

- 27 percent of cars had low or dirty engine oil.
- 23 percent had low tire pressure.
- 26 percent had inadequate cooling protection.
- 21 percent needed new belts.
- 17 percent had dirty air filters.
- 11 percent had low or contaminated brake fluid.

To help drivers keep their cars up to par, the council promotes programs such as National Car Care Month in April, to call attention to the benefits of regular vehicle care. During the month of April, vehicle inspection events are held in many communities.

The inspections include volunteers checking fluid levels, tires, lights and other system components. After the inspections are complete, volunteers and motorists



Get In Gear—Regular maintenance can help keep cars running well for years.

review any problems that may have been found and motorists receive information about proper vehicle maintenance and repair.

The inspections are usually held in parking lots at shopping malls, schools and businesses and they're generally sponsored by area repair facilities and auto-shops, as well as other businesses, civic groups and radio stations.

The Car Care Council is also the source of information for the "Be Car Care Aware" campaign—an initiative geared toward educating consumers about the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair.

For more information, visit www.carcare.org.

Note To Editors: This article is evergreen and can be run throughout the year. It may be particularly relevant during National Car Care Month, which is in April.