## OCTOBER IS FALL CAR CARE MONTH





Between getting ready for the upcoming Halloween Trick-Or-Treat season and preparing for Thanksgiving, there's a lot of stuff to plan and remember in the autumn months. Sometimes, your vehicle can unexpectedly take a back seat in all the chaos, and when you need it to perform, something unanticipated happens. This October, be sure to carve out time to ensure your vehicle is prepared for the colder months ahead and visit your local Tuffy Tire & Auto Service Center for a complete Fall car care inspection. From brakes and tires to oil changes and preventive maintenance, Tuffy does it all.

Did you know that October has been designated as National Fall Car Care Month? Taking a proactive approach to your vehicle's maintenance will help to ensure safety, reliability, and fewer unexpected repairs when colder weather strikes. The non-profit Car Care Council recommends having these maintenance services inspected and checked each Fall season.

- Check all fluids, including engine oil, power steering, brake and transmission as well as windshield washer solvent and antifreeze/coolant.
- Check the hoses and belts to make sure they are not cracked, brittle, frayed, loose or showing signs of
  excessive wear.
- Check the battery and replace if necessary. Make sure the connection is clean, tight and corrosion-free.
- Check the brake system annually and have the brake linings, rotors and drums inspected at each oil change.
- Inspect the exhaust system for leaks, damage and broken supports or hangers if there is an unusual noise. Exhaust leaks can be dangerous and must be corrected without delay.
- Check engine performance to make sure it is delivering the best balance of power and fuel economy and producing the lowest level of emissions.
- Check the heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system as proper heating and cooling performance is critical for interior comfort and for safety reasons such as defrosting.
- Inspect the steering and suspension system annually including shock absorbers, struts and chassis parts such as ball joints, tie rod ends and other related components.
- Check the tires, including tire pressure and tread. Uneven wear indicates a need for wheel alignment. Tires should also be checked for bulges and bald spots.
- Check the wipers and lighting so that you can see and be seen. Check that all interior and exterior lighting is working properly and replace worn wiper blades so you can see clearly when driving during precipitation.

The Car Care Council is the source of information for the "Be Car Care Aware" consumer education campaign promoting the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair to consumers.

For more information, visit www.carcare.org.

From your local Tuffy Tire & Auto Service Center, be safe and enjoy the upcoming Fall season!