



Virginia's Inspection and Maintenance (I/M) Program: Air Check Virginia

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The Basics

- Administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
- Biennial inspection required for vehicle registration/renewal
- Includes counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William, and Stafford; and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park
- Cost is market based, up to \$28, plus a \$2 administrative fee collected separately by the Department of Motor Vehicles at the time of registration/renewal
- Tests gasoline powered vehicles with a model year of less than 25 years prior to January 1 of the current calendar year and a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 10,000 pounds or less
- Tests diesel vehicles 1997 model year and newer with a GVWR of 8,500 pounds or less
- Vehicles exempt include: current and three preceding model years, motorcycles, autocycles not equipped with OBD, registered antique vehicles, fire/rescue vehicles, those powered exclusively by clean fuels, tactical military vehicles, and hybrid vehicles achieving 50+ miles per gallon

What Our Decentralized Program Looks Like:

- I/M Program includes 17 DEQ staff (currently several vacant positions). The Mobile Source
 Operations Section located in DEQ's Northern Regional Office includes 16 of those staff
 positions and one staff member resides in DEQ's Central Office
- DEQ is responsible for licensing all emissions inspectors, permitting all inspection stations, and certifying all repair facilities and technicians:
 - Over 500 permitted emissions inspection stations
 - Over 1,800 licensed emissions inspectors
 - Over 300 certified repair facilities
 - Over 500 certified repair technicians
- DEQ administers two I/M Program Contracts: both currently held by Opus Inspection
 - I/M Program Coordinator Services: operate and maintain a Vehicle Inspection Database system, supply and maintain testing equipment to inspection stations, and provide certain training and evaluation functions for the I/M Program
 - Remote Sensing and Clean Screen Services: provide clean screen and high emitter programs

On-Road Emissions – Remote Sensing Devices

Total Screen Program:

- Clean Screen (RAPIDPASS): Eligible vehicles with very clean emissions observed by roadside remote sensing devices (RSDs) receive a notification that their emissions pass inspection standards and they have the option to redeem their RAPIDPASS and pay the \$28 inspection fee online, in lieu of receiving a traditional inspection at a station.
- High Emitter: Subject vehicles observed by RSDs with very high exhaust emissions may receive a Notice of Violation (NOV) requiring that the vehicle be submitted for inspection within 30-days of the NOV. The vehicle must be brought into compliance, receive a waiver or be disposed of or the vehicle owner will be assessed a civil charge.
- Liquid Leaker: Vehicles observed with high evaporative emissions, indicative of a liquid or vapor gasoline leak receive an advisory notice recommending that they have their car examined.
- 17 RSD5000 unmanned roadside RSDs; deploy up to 15 at a time
- Collect data from nearly 200 approved sites in the I/M area and a few sites outside I/M area
- Typical data collection occurs Monday through Thursday from 6AM to 6PM
- Opus deploys and collects the RSD units daily; data is uploaded to the database at the end of each day





2017 I/M Program Data

- Approximately 1.7 million vehicles registered in the I/M program area
- Nearly one million inspections performed
- Approximately 87% of initial tests passed
- Approximately 2% of initial tests failed
- 374 Waivers were issued (approximately 1.6% of initial test fails)
- 309 Informal Actions issued
- 67 NOVs issued to Stations/Facilities/Inspectors/Technicians
- 388 High Emitter NOVs issued
- RSDs collected over 8 million records
- Identified 163,158 eligible clean screen candidates
- 87, 308 clean screen notifications were redeemed





