

VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

Virginia's Motor Vehicle Safety Inspections are supervised and administrated by the Virginia State Police.

We certify the inspectors; inspect & authorize the official inspection stations and track all inspection stickers issued—pass or fail.

Did you know...every official inspection station in Virginia is directly overseen by a specific Virginia State Police trooper?

Each trooper is available to consumers should any inspection related issues arise.



CAPTAIN RONALD C. MAXEY



In today's busy world, vehicle maintenance may not rank high on your list of priorities.

Yet every time you pull out of your driveway, you are entrusting your safety and that of your loved ones to the vehicle in which you are riding.

You can take comfort in the knowledge that your vehicle, and over 8 million others traveling alongside of you,

receive a thorough inspection of all safety related components annually by a Certified State Inspector—thanks to Virginia's Motor Vehicle Safety Inspection Program.

The Virginia State Police is committed to improving highway safety, and a key component is the safety of the vehicles traveling on our roadways.

The Virginia State Police strives to ensure your experience during the annual inspection process is both educational and satisfying. If you have any questions or comments related to your experience, we would be happy to hear from you.

Captain Ronald C. Maxey,
Virginia State Police - Safety Division

VA INSPECTION PROGRAM

The Virginia Motor Vehicle Safety Inspection Program was started in 1932 to reduce highway accidents and deaths.

It is the oldest continuous motor vehicle inspection program in the United States and has been used as a model program for countries worldwide.



INSPECTION STATION

**Inspection required
within 12 months of last
inspection month**

**THE LARGE NUMBER
ON THE STICKER INDICATES
THE DATE OF EXPIRATION**

**Virginia registered
motor vehicles, trailers,
and semi-trailers must be
inspected annually
INSPECT EARLY - AVOID DELAYS**

VA Vehicle & Inspection Statistics

(Compiled from State Police, National Insurance & Federal Highway Administration records.)

OUR CARS ARE GETTING OLDER

In 1969, the average age was—5.1 years

In 1990, the average was—6.5 years

In 2007, the average was—9.4 years

In 2011, the average was—11.2 years

In 2015, the average was—11.5 years



WE ARE DRIVING MORE MILES



The yearly “norm” has previously been considered to be 12,000 miles per year.

However, nearly 70% of states have recorded significant increases in yearly mileage.

The Average Vehicle Mileage for Motorists in Virginia is now 15,545 miles per year.

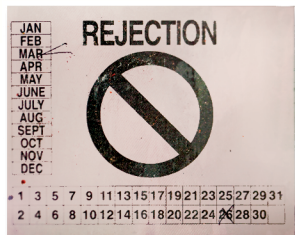
COMMUTING TIMES HAVE DOUBLED

Virginia's average commute is the nation's seventh highest. Traffic delays have doubled since 1985.

Last year, Northern Virginia was the worst in the US for average hours of delay (82) per commuter.



ONE IN SIX CARS FAILED INSPECTION IN 2015



94.2% had steering/suspension violations

57.0% had brake violations

53.6% had windshield wiper violations

51.6% had headlight violations

50.0% had tire violations

48.2% had turn signal violations

8,012,434 vehicles were inspected—1,348,754 vehicles failed. (16.86%)

VEHICLE SAFETY IS PUBLIC SAFETY

We are all at risk when unsafe vehicles travel our streets and highways.

Vehicles which fail Inspection are required to complete all repairs and pass a new reinspection before being allowed back on our roads.



VA Safety Inspection Examples

(Recent images of vehicles which drove in “off-the-street” for Safety Inspections.)



HEADLIGHTS

This vehicle was failed for headlights.

If you look at the gauge, you can see how dim this vehicle's headlight illumination actually was.

You would not be able to see at night, driving with these headlights.



TIRES

Everyone on the road is at risk next to a vehicle with tires in this condition.

Best case scenario, this tire is simply flat one morning when the driver comes outside.

Worst case scenario, the tire dramatically blows out at high speed on a highway.



BRAKES

This vehicle had been driven, well after its brake pads had completely worn away.

(Compare the image on the left with how a new brake pad looks on the right.)

This vehicle's brakes were non-existent.



SUSPENSION

This is a cracked upper control arm-ball joint mount—which can result in steering loss.

Unlike the previous examples, this is a problem you wouldn't necessarily be aware of.

But it was picked up during the suspension check of the VA Safety Inspection procedure.



Endorse and Support the Virginia State Vehicle Safety Inspection Program