

**U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Vehicle Emissions Testing Requirement for Hamilton County**

Q. Why is emission testing required in Hamilton County?

A. The 1990 Federal Clean Air Act required the State of Tennessee to develop more restrictive regulations to control air pollution from mobile sources in counties which were not meeting the Federal Standards for air quality. Hamilton County's air quality was tested in 2004 and did not meet the Federal standard.

Q. How much does it cost?

A. \$9 (no bills larger than \$20) or by debit/credit card (Mastercard and Visa accepted). No charge when a vehicle fails first test and a second is administered within 90 days (failed compliance certificate must be presented at 2nd test.)

Q. Once my vehicle has passed the test, may I use the compliance certificate more than once?

A. Once a certificate has been used successfully for renewal or title registration, it may not be used again.

Q. Will I still be able to renew by internet and by mail?

A. Yes. These services remain intact.

Q. Do all vehicles have to be tested?

A. Prior to registering/titling a used car or renewing your annual vehicle registration, vehicle models 1975 and newer with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,500 pounds or less must be tested. If you buy a used vehicle and transfer your existing tag to that vehicle, testing is not required until the renewal date of the transferred tag.

Q. Are there any exceptions?

A. Yes. Motorcycles, 100% electric powered vehicles, new vehicles supported by an M.S.O. being registered for the first time and up to one year from the registration month, antiques (25 years or older and registered as antique), tactical military vehicles, vehicles out of the testing area, i.e. college students, military, must apply for an exemption from State Air Pollution Control, (866) 329-9632.

Q. Where are the test centers located, and when are they open for business?

A.

- 720 Eastgate Loop—Eastgate area
- 5206 Austin Road—Northgate area

HOURS: Tuesday—Friday, 7 a.m.—6 p.m.
Saturday, 7:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.
Closed Sunday and Monday

- 1620 Riverfront Parkway—downtown area
- 7460 Bonnyshire Drive—behind the Driver License Testing Center on Bonny Oaks

HOURS: Monday—Friday, 7:00 a.m.—5:30 p.m.
Closed Saturday and Sunday

Q. What will be tested?

- 1) Gas vehicles between 1975 and 1995
Tailpipe emissions test, a gas cap check and a tampering check. The tampering check is a visual test to make sure catalytic converters have not been altered. This applies only to vehicles that were manufactured with a converter.
- 2) Gas vehicles 1996 and newer
These vehicles are equipped with OnBoard Diagnostic (OBD) equipment. The process will verify that the OBD functions correctly and will gather emissions data stored in the vehicle's computer. A pressurized gas cap leak check will also be conducted.
- 3) Diesel vehicles
Between 1975 and 2001 must pass an idle test of 10% opacity for at least 10 consecutive seconds and a gas cap check. 2002 models or newer must pass OBD test and gas cap check. (If the vehicle is not equipped with OBD, test will default to an idle test.)

QUICK TIPS

- Emission test--\$9 cash, Mastercard or Visa
- Bring or mail emission test certificate when renewing and/or titling your vehicle
- Internet renewal--no change in this process-- compliance is checked automatically
- Test valid for 90 days. Results void if altered and cannot be replaced if lost or stolen



Additional info available toll-free: (877) 477-0800 or (866) 329-9632 or online immediately at www.state.tn.us/environment/apc/vehicle