

# **Al's Auto Service Inc.**

**FALL 2016**

**Newsletter**

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## **GETTING FLUSHED AT AL'S AUTO SERVICES**

Al's Auto Service has some added services for its customers. We now provide added maintenance services, dealer quality services, to your vehicle's maintenance schedule.

We have added a coolant back flusher, a trans fluid exchanger and a power steering fluid exchanger.

The coolant back flush is pretty self explanatory, it reverses the flow of your cooling system to help remove unwanted scale and corrosion from your vehicle's cooling system, while exchanging all the coolant. This will lengthen the life of your cooling system components and keep your vehicle protected in the coldest of winter weather.

The transmission fluid exchanger does not back flush the transmission, rather it moves all the old fluid out of the transmission via the normal path of circulation.

Trans back flushing, while successful on newer low mileage vehicles, can spell disaster for a high mileage transmission with lots of varnish and debris inside the transmission. Back flushing can dislodge dirt that will plug up important orifices inside your transmission, causing a transmission not to shift, or even move for that matter.

This service is not yet approved for vehicles that have a CVT Transmission. CVT (Continuously Variable Transmission) have different fluid requirements than conventional transmissions. CVT's for now are only serviced via a drain and refill process.

The power steering fluid exchanger takes all the old fluid out and replaces it with clean new fluid. This service will keep you steering your vehicle easily and safely for years to come.

Power steering systems with old debris laden fluid can experience "morning sickness" as we call it. They are hard to turn when the fluid is cold, but gradually get easier to steer as the fluid and engine warm up. Keeping clean fluid in your power steering will prevent that "fight" you have with the steering wheel as you back out of your driveway each morning on your way to work.

## **OIL FLUSHING OPTION**

When your vehicle is in for an engine oil change at Al's Auto Service, we may suggest an "Oil Flush" along with your service. This is a new item we can offer our customers. The oil flush is added prior to draining the motor oil, then the engine is run for 8-10 minutes.

This allows the flush to clean out your oil system. (A good enema is one way to think of it.) It removes sludge and debris from inside your motor. The hot/dirty oil is then drained out as usual and the oil filter replaced.

No additional service is needed. The bottle of Oil Flush is \$24.95.

We suggest an oil flush once per year on most vehicles. Less often for low mileage vehicles. (Driven less than a thousand miles a year)

Add an oil flush to your next oil change at Al's Auto Service, you'll like the results.

## **FALL CHANGEOVER SEASON IS HERE**

It's that time of the year again, time to get the vehicle ready for the onslaught of winter. After a mild winter last year, we are primed for a normal Northeast Ohio winter this year.

This means lots of cold temperatures and snow, snow, snow.

Your vehicle needs to be in tip/top shape to survive the brutal weather ahead.

The battery needs to be in good operating condition. Any battery that is more than three years old is subject to failure. Extreme cold is a battery's worst enemy. (Followed only by extreme summer heat) Al's Auto Service carries a full line of AC Delco and Interstate Batteries for your vehicle.

Tires need to have sufficient tread to keep you moving through the snow. A good rule of thumb is you need about 6/32 of tread on your tires to get good bite in the snow.

Cooper Tire is offering rebates on sets of four tires now through October 31, 2016. Check with us on availability of Cooper Tires and the rebate amounts for your vehicle.

Your vehicle's coolant (antifreeze) must be able to handle temperatures as low as -32 degrees Fahrenheit. If you don't remember the last time you serviced your cooling system, it's probably time it was done.

Coolant from the factory is normally good for 5 years or 100,000 miles, (whichever comes first) replacement coolant can last up to three years. Frequent coolant changes prevents a build up of scale and corrosion in your cooling system, which in turn prevents overheating and possible major engine damage.

Owners of certain import vehicles may be required to buy special coolants specific to your vehicle. Using the wrong coolant can cause gelling in the coolant system that can restrict coolant flow through the radiator and heater core. The last thing you need on a bitterly cold day is an overheated engine or no heat.

An often overlooked, but very important safety feature on your vehicle are your wiper blades. Only used when the weather is bad, they serve a vital role in helping you see the road ahead clearly.

Torn or missing rubber at the wiper's windshield contact point will lead to streaking and an unsafe driving condition for you or whomever is driving your vehicle.

The best blades out there now are the "Beam" type blades available from most manufacturers of wiper products. Al's Auto Service recommends AC Delco Beam Type blades for most cars and light trucks.

Don't overlook that wiper blade on the rear window on your van or SUV. It helps you see clearly behind you. Sometimes it's good to know what's going on you.

Check with Al's Auto Service for all your pre-winter needs.

## **IS THAT FUNNY LOOKING "LOW TIRE LIGHT" ON?**

As cooler temperatures engulf Northeast Ohio, many of you will find that your vehicle's "Low Tire" light will illuminate. Your tires look fine to the eye, but why did that light come on? Sometimes, and I stress, SOMETIMES, the problem is just the change in the weather, specifically the air temperature.

As the temperatures cool in the fall, the air in your tires shrinks, causing the pressure in your tires to drop. A good "rule of thumb" is you lose about 1 PSI for every 10 degree drop in air temperature.

What can you do about this? Short of moving to a warmer climate, your tires should be checked for air pressure once a month. Use the tire pressure listed on the sticker located on the door jamb for the proper tire inflation for your vehicle. Pressures that are too high or too low can lead to blow outs and unsafe driving conditions for your vehicle.

We at Al's Auto Service can advise you on whether your "Low Tire" light is just from the weather or if you have an actual problem, like a nail or screw in your tire.

Should a Tire Pressure Monitor go bad; dead battery, broken stem, etc. Al's Auto Service can take care of that with our stock of replacement TPMS sensors for most vehicles. TPMS batteries have a life expectancy of 5-7 years on average.

