

Proper maintenance helps your vehicle run better

Lately, I have been reading articles about how often your vehicle's oil should be changed. Most vehicle manufacturers recommends anywhere from 4,000 to 10,000 miles between oil changes. Oil manufacturers sell "long life oil," and synthetic oils that are supposed to last longer between oil changes. But, according to some consumer reports another reason your vehicle's oil does not need to be changed as often is because it's a gimmick, for the repair shops to get more money from you and to get your vehicle back into the garage. Some of the consumer experts feel you can save lots of money if you don't do as many oil changes. I guess they don't think about what can happen in the long run when you cut back on a vehicle's maintenance. Well, I can think of other ways to save money, like never changing the oil in your french fryer, reusing your wash water over, using the same dish water all week, don't change your clothing all week, ask your neighbor for their leftover food, but why stop there – cut back on your body maintenance, cut back on your bathing and brushing your teeth to once a week. Do you see where I am going with this?

Maintenance plays an important part in your health and also your vehicle. We had a new customer bring in their vehicle for an oil light coming on at highway speeds. The vehicle had low miles, but the customer never changed the oil regularly. So what happened was the oil pan started to form sludge and the engine oil pump would start to suck the sludge into the pump at high speeds. Well it happened so often the engine starved for oil and it ruined the bearings in the engine. Well, you guessed it, cha-ching, big money repair. We also had another first time customer come in after visiting our stand at the Oley Fair. He was told the transmission in his Ford truck needed to be rebuilt because it lost its firm shift and it had a bad vibration in drive. After giving the truck a check over, we found the transmission fluid was very dark and in bad condition. We recommended a trans flush and a new filter. The customer agreed to try it because he never had it done since he owned the truck the past seven years. Well guess what? It

fixed his problem. The former owner had serviced the trans and had put synthetic fluid in the trans, so the current owner didn't think it needed changing because it was synthetic.

Remember maintenance is very important and it helps improve your vehicles reliability, performance and its value. On a side note we just wanted to let you know we are an AAA approved shop and our techs are ASE certified. At Dave's Auto Service located at 925 W. Phila. Ave., Boyertown, we can perform any dealer recommended services or repairs. We welcome any former customers of Dames Chevrolet, Norco Motors and any others whose dealership or repair garage may have closed. Feel free to call us at 610-367-1844. Our hours are 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.