

Dave's Auto Service recommends preventative maintenance

Picture a very cold winter day and there is so much to do – grocery shopping, take the cat to the vet, prepare supper for your favorite mother-in-law and then it happens. The vehicle starts to run bad and the check engine light comes on. Not only is it on, the light is also flashing. But there is no stopping now, too many things to do. As a matter of fact, the next few days, there are so many things to do, so for the next couple of days your vehicle is still running bad and the check engine light is still flashing. But the good thing is, the light flashes to a beat of your favorite song that is playing on the radio.

When the vehicle finally makes it to the garage, the mechanic informs you there is a bad spark plug and the catalytic converter may be damaged – not what you wanted to hear, sounds like it could be costly. But wait, let's jump into our time machine and go back four months ago, when your vehicle was in for service, your mechanic had recommended changing the spark plugs. But the owner's manual says you have another 20,000 miles to go, so you decline. Sometimes your mechanic may recommend some services due to your driving style or some vehicles are known for certain problems. Our shop will recommend some services or repairs sometimes before they are due. Like spark plugs – most vehicles are due around 100,000, but we disagree. Driving in stop and go traffic, I think, is harder on a

vehicle's engine than highway driving. A vehicle that is not driven much is also not good. We had a customer one time with a truck with only 31,000 miles on it, it had sat so much that two of the spark plugs blew apart, because of rust at the base of the spark plugs. The repair bill on that truck was costly, more than a standard spark plug change.

We all know the economy is not good right now and the extra cash for some people is a problem. But sometimes spending a couple of dollars now, might save you big time later. Our garage will never “scare” you or “force” you to do any recommended repairs or service, it is your choice, but remember, some are made for good reasons. It is also called preventive maintenance and peace of mind.

Call Dave's Auto Service, Inc. at 610-367-1844, located at 925 W. Phila. Ave., Boyertown for fast and reliable service.