



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Rule Implementation Plan

Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection

Chapter 173-422A WAC

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Publication and Contact Information

This report is available on the Department of Ecology's website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/1102025.html>.

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Ecology publishes this document to meet the requirements of the Washington State Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.325)

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Purpose

Ecology provides the information in this implementation plan to meet agency and Administrative Procedure Act (RCW 34.05.328) requirements related to rule adoptions.

Introduction

The purpose of this rule implementation plan is to inform those who must comply with CHAPTER 173-422A WAC Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection about how the Department of Ecology (Ecology) intends to:

- Implement and enforce the rule.
- Inform and educate persons affected by the rule.
- Promote and assist voluntary compliance for the rule.
- Evaluate the rule.
- Train and inform Ecology staff about the new or amended rule.

Also included in this plan is information about:

- Supporting documents that may need to be written or revised because of the new rule or amended rule.
- Other resources where more information about the rule is available.
- Contact information for Ecology employees who can answer questions about the rule implementation.

Implementation and Enforcement

Ecology will use a Contractor to:

- Conduct vehicle emissions tests.
- Provide testing equipment to the Authorized Testers.
- Collect and manage the test data.
- Assist with Ecology's public information and auditing activities.

Ecology's primary role will be:

- Oversight of the Contractor's and Authorized Testers operations.
- Ensuring that vehicle owners and automotive repair technicians understand the program.
- Assisting the public with testing, and related vehicle repair and licensing questions.

Informing and Educating Persons Affected by the Rule

- Ecology is updating the information to the affected vehicle owners and automotive repair businesses as it becomes available. The Department of Licensing has been notified of the need to revise their software that informs vehicle owners of the need to obtain an emission test.
- Rule making information is posted on Ecology's current rule-making website and a RSS feed. Interested parties were notified of the public hearing on the proposed rule.

- The final rule and Concise Explanatory Statement will be e-mailed to all interested parties and posted on Ecology's current rule-making website.
- Ecology will mail a notice to businesses impacted by the rule and other interested parties.

Promoting and Assisting Voluntary Compliance

The actions mentioned above to inform affected persons on the changes will also help promote voluntary compliance. Program staff are available to respond to telephone and e-mail queries.

Ecology will work with the Contractor and the Department of Licensing to make sure that they understand their role in enforcing program requirements and procedures.

Evaluating the Rule

Ecology will review and monitor the Contractor's and Authorized Testers operations. Ecology will provide annual reports on the program's operation to the Environmental Protection Agency.

Training and Informing Ecology Staff

The staff responsible for rule development will update the staff responsible for implementing this rule. Staff will be trained on program changes. Ecology will hold an all emission check staff meeting to provide opportunity to discuss new best management practices under the proposed program.

List of Supporting Documents that May Need to be Written or Revised

Ecology will update its public training information materials including the Authorized Emission Specialist Handbook, program focus sheets and Ecology's and its Contractor's web site. Ecology will also ensure that the Department of Licensing and the licensing agents update their websites and operating procedures.

More Information

- Washington State Vehicle Emission Inspection Program: www.emissiontestwa.com/e/
- **Emission Check Program RSS Feed:**
feeds.feedburner.com/PlusWashingtonStateEmissionTesting-testWebsite?format=xml

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