## Periodic vehicle inspection

Alaska's Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection program will begin March 1, 1976, Department of Public Safety, Alaska Traffic Bureau Director, Charles Smith, announced Thursday. The program was originally scheduled to begin Feb. 1, but due to printing and other delays had to be delayed one month.

Only those people within the the metropolitan areas of Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau will be affected by motor vehicle inspections," Smith said. "People not living in one of those three areas, have, or will receive a sticker, along with their registration renewals, indicating that their vehicle is not subject to motor vehicle inspection.

The sticker is to be placed on the lower left windshield, to identify the vehicle as being an area not subject to vehicle inspection at this time.

Vehicle owners in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau will receive an inspection sticker place in the lower left windshield when the vehicle has passed inspection.

Owners of vehicles passing inspection will also receive a statement to that effect. Smith said that hits statement must be presented as proof of vehicle inspection passage in order to receive 1977 license tags.

Only four items will be checked in the vehicle inspection according to Smith— brakes, steering, suspension, and tires. "Research indicates that 80% of defect— caused accidents can be directly attributed to failures of brakes, steering, suspension, and tires," Smith commented.

Method of inspection, items to be checked and reasons for inspection failure will be conspiciouously posted at all particiapting inspection stations. The inspection fee wil be six dollars.

"Please have your vehicle ready for inspection," Smith argued. "The inspection program is not designed to prepare vehicles for inspection or to repair faulty vehicles."

If a vehicle fails inspection, the owners has ten days in which to have it repaired and to return to the station for reinspection or to show proof to the inspector that the necessary parts for repair have been ordered, to extend the reinspection period.

If the vehicle owner returns to the same inspection station within ten days, for reinspection, there will be no additional charge.

Smith stressed that owners do not have to have their vehicles repaired at the inspection station, "Vehicle owners may make their own repairs, take their vehicles to a friend or to a different business if they wish." Smith said.

If a vehicle owner encounters any improprieties with the motor vehicle inspection, he should write to Alaska Traffic Safety Bureau, Department of Public Safety, Pouch N, Juneau, Alaska, 99811.

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