



The Analyzer

THE WISCONSIN VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAM

WIVIP HELP LINE
(866)623-8378

Top Stories

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Coronavirus pandemic response

DMV extends emissions testing timeline

To reduce the need for travel and in-person interactions during the COVID-19 health emergency, Wisconsin DOT announced an extended deadline for vehicle emissions tests, which are required in southeastern Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) worked together to implement the extension and came to an agreement, which is required under State law.

“This is another opportunity for us to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus,” said WisDOT Secretary-designee Craig Thompson. “We are always working to find cooperative ways in state government to better protect the people of Wisconsin.”

“The vehicle inspection and maintenance program will continue to play an important role in reducing emissions from motor vehicles in Southeast Wisconsin and helps ensure we meet our Clean Air Act obligations,” said DNR Secretary Preston Cole. “However, during this public health emergency, it is important that we remain flexible.”

The extension affects vehicles in Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Washington and Waukesha counties, and makes the following changes:

- ◆ Customers who have a routine vehicle registration renewal date after March 12 and require an emission test will have 90 days from their renewal date to complete an emission test and maintain valid registration.
- ◆ Customers who obtained a new vehicle registration this year (January 26 – March 12) will need to complete an emission test by June 10 to maintain valid registration.
- ◆ Customers who apply for, or obtained, new registration after March 12 (when the Governor’s emergency Executive Order took effect) will have 90 days from their date of registration to complete an emission test and maintain valid registration. This gives customers an additional 45 days to complete the original requirement.

Opus Inspection remains open to support the day-to-day operations of the Wisconsin Vehicle Inspection Program. While many private inspection facilities have made the decision to temporarily suspend emissions testing services for the period of the “safer at home” directive, stations that choose to continue testing may still contact Opus for technical support and supplies as well as for assistance with any issues related to vehicle registration renewals.

2020 inspector license recertification process and training

As Opus has not been able to provide inspector recertification classes due to efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, inspectors with licenses that are due for recertification at this time may receive a 90-day extension for their license. If you have questions or concerns regarding the status of your inspector license or if your license has expired after March 12 and you need an extension, please contact Opus at (262) 641-5217.

Opus will update the WIVIP network via email and analyzer messages regarding the future availability of inspector certification and re-certification classes as we work through the impact of the current pandemic.

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EXTENDED DEADLINE FOR EMISSIONS TESTS

Customers with new or renewal registrations after March 12 will have 90 days from date of registration or renewal to complete an emissions test and maintain valid registration.



TECH TIPS

Identifying and resolving VID communication issues

VID COMMUNICATION ISSUES

After restarting the Analyzer, if the VID and Online status lights are red, stop testing and call Opus immediately at (262) 641-5217.

It is vital that your emissions analyzer is online and communicating with the Vehicle Inspection Database (VID) at all times. This status can be observed on the Main Menu of the emissions analyzer display.

On the left hand side of the screen you will see status monitors for VID and Internet. Make sure the status light is green! If either of these lights are red, safely restart your analyzer by clicking on **Nightly Shutdown** and then clicking on **Yes** in response to the pop-up window with the text **Do you wish to perform a shutdown/restart of the analyzer?** After the analyzer has restarted, verify that the **VID**, **Online**, and **Untrans** status lights are green.

If the **VID** and **Online** status lights are red, stop testing and call Opus immediately at (262) 641-5217.

If the **Untrans** status light is red, you must resend un-transmitted test records! To do this, click on **Utilities** on the Main Menu, click on **Communications**, then click on **Resend Record(s) to VID**.

On the **Resend Records** page, select a start date pre-dating any suspected VID connectivity issues and simply click **Send** on the bottom left of the screen. The analyzer will identify all of the test records for the selected date range and resend them to the VID, ensuring that all records have been transmitted and that your customer can proceed with their annual registration renewal or temporary registration process.

REMINDER:

If a vehicle is brought into your business for an emission inspection and the MIL is on, you must test the vehicle.

Inspection Procedure Reminders

Recording Accurate Odometer Readings is Essential

It is important to accurately enter the odometer reading for all inspected vehicles. Vehicle insurance companies and third parties such as CarFax rely on odometer readings of proof of the vehicle's "low mileage" insurance discount or recommended purchase value. Inspectors who incorrectly enter the odometer readings can cause their customers to lose "low mileage" insurance rates or vehicle resale value.

Vehicles With MIL On Must Be Tested

If a vehicle is brought into your business for an emission inspection and the MIL is on, you must test the vehicle. It is important for the motorist to have a failed test on record and receive the information that explains the repair/retest process that is printed along with the failed vehicle inspection report. Additionally, the motorist would not be eligible for temporary plates without a failed or rejected test on record.

Inventory Running Low?

Periodically check your paper, toner, and sticker inventory. If it is running low, call the Opus New Berlin office at (262) 641-5217 to place an order for resupplies. Don't wait until you are out to place a call!

Cost Waiver Limit 2020

The repair cost limit for all model year vehicles subject to emissions testing will increase from \$918 to \$935, effective July 1, 2020. This figure is adjusted annually by the DNR per NR 485.045.

Recognition Status for Emissions Repairs

Benefits to becoming a recognized repair facility with the Wisconsin Vehicle Inspection Program (WIVIP).

Motorists in southeastern Wisconsin seek emissions related repairs for vehicles that cannot pass the emissions inspection, a biennial requirement for most vehicles to complete registration renewal or at the time a vehicle changes ownership.

A repair business achieves recognition if it has at least one technician with advanced emissions related training (see details below) and has completed the registration process with the Wisconsin Vehicle Inspection Program.

Repair facilities that meet the recognition criteria can realize the following advantages:

- **Increased business:** Accurate repairs yield satisfied customers and word-of-mouth referrals from family and friends.
- **Free advertising:** Only a list of recognized repair facilities is provided to motorists at the time of the vehicle's failure or reject. There is also a special section on the program website (www.wisconsinvip.org) that lists [recognized repair facilities](#).
- **Increased credibility:** A recognized repair facility is one of a select group of repair facilities distinguished for having technicians with advanced emissions repair training.
- **Standing out:** Only DTC-related emissions repair work performed at a recognized repair facility is eligible for waiver consideration.
- **Free training opportunities:** Receive email notifications for technical seminars.

How to become recognized

If your facility employs at least one technician with ASE L1 certification or WISETECH certification; or is a franchised new car dealership, it is one step away from becoming a recognized repair facility.

You may register your facility, free of charge, with the Wisconsin Vehicle Inspection Program (WIVIP) by completing the application at: <http://www.wisconsinvip.org/WivipPublic/PDF/Forms/RecognizedRepairFacilityApplication.pdf>.

Once recognized, your facility will appear on the www.wisconsinvip.org website, as well as on handouts to customers.

If you would like to become recognized, but need to be certified or recertify, you can find information regarding the ASE process at www.ase.com.

RECOGNIZED REPAIR FACILITIES WITH THE WIVIP BENEFIT FROM:

- ♦ ***Increased business;***
- ♦ ***Free advertising;***
- ♦ ***Increased credibility;***
- ♦ ***Standing out; and***
- ♦ ***Free training opportunities.***

YOU MAY REGISTER YOUR FACILITY FREE OF CHARGE IF:

- ♦ ***You employ at least one technician with ASE L1 certification or WISETECH certification;***
- OR**
- ♦ ***Your facility is a franchised new car dealership.***