



# NEWS RELEASE

1445 Market Street, Suite 260 | Denver, CO 80202 | Phone: 303-629-5450 | Fax: 303-629-5822 | www.raqc.org

## **For Immediate Release**

CONTACT: Sara O'Keefe  
Communications Manager, RAQC  
(303) 629-5450, ext. 220  
sokeefe@raqc.org

Darby C Doll  
JohnstonWells Public Relations  
(303) 623-3366  
ddoll@johnstonwells.com

## **Car Care Fairs Offer Free Vehicle Inspections**

*14 middle school and high school locations to offer free 30-point inspections by NAPA-certified technicians.*

Denver, Colo. (April 26, 2006) – For four consecutive Saturdays from April 29 through May 20, motorists throughout the Denver metro-area will have the opportunity to receive free visual, vehicle inspections by NAPA-certified technicians at designated schools throughout the region.

The Regional Air Quality Council (RAQC), Colorado Select NAPA AutoCare Centers and several school districts have partnered to offer the vehicle inspections to help Front Range motorists keep vehicles running more efficiently and to improve Denver's air quality this summer by reducing ozone-causing emissions.

April is National Car Care Month and for four consecutive Saturdays from **Saturday, April 29 through Saturday May 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, motorists can visit one of 14 designated school locations in Front Range cities (see full list below), where NAPA-certified technicians will conduct a 30-point vehicle inspection checking belts and hoses, fluids, tire pressure and much more. In addition to free inspections, technicians will offer advice on improvements motorists can make to save money in long-term maintenance costs and improve the efficiency of their vehicles, including gas mileage. A well-maintained vehicle will cost less, run more efficiently, and help reduce ozone-causing emissions. Ground-level ozone can trigger respiratory and other health problems.

“Today, more and more motorists are aware that keeping their vehicles well-maintained makes sense not just for their pocketbooks but for our air quality as well. By keeping vehicles properly maintained, motorists can help take care of our summer air and curb summertime ozone pollution,” said Ken Lloyd, executive director of the RAQC.



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At ground level, ozone is harmful to breathe in high concentrations. The elderly, young, and those with pre-existing respiratory conditions are particularly at risk from exposure to ozone, although healthy adults – who spend a lot of time exercising or working outdoors – may be affected by high ozone levels.

Ground-level ozone is formed when emissions from everyday items – such as local industry, gasoline-powered lawn equipment and vehicles, and household paints, stains, and solvents – react with other pollutants in the heat and sunlight. Ozone is most likely to form during the summer months on hot, sunny days. In Front Range cities, on-road mobile vehicles contribute about 15 percent of total volatile organic compounds (VOCs), one of the main ingredients to ozone formation. This represents almost 30 percent of total VOCs resulting from man-made sources.

“This is the sixth year we’ve conducted inspections at the Car Care Fairs and each year we are able to offer more locations along the Front Range where motorists can receive free vehicle inspections. NAPA AutoCare members look forward to participating in the Car Care Fairs again this year and helping Front Range motorists keep their cars running smoothly and cleanly,” said John Rush, president of the Colorado Select NAPA AutoCare Group.

For additional information on the Car Care Fairs, please visit [www.OzoneAware.org](http://www.OzoneAware.org) or the RAQC’s Web site at [www.raqc.org](http://www.raqc.org) or call (303) 629-5450.

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## 14 middle school and high school locations:

### April 29

#### **AURORA –**

RANGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL  
17599 E. Illiff Avenue

AURORA CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
11700 E. 11th Ave.

#### **DENVER –**

NORTH HIGH SCHOOL  
2960 North Speer Boulevard

SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL  
1700 E. Louisiana Ave.

### May 13

#### **THORNTON –**

SHADOW RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
12551 Holly Street

#### **WESTMINSTER –**

STANDLEY LAKE HIGH SCHOOL  
9300 W. 104th Ave.

### May 6

#### **BOULDER –**

BOULDER HIGH SCHOOL  
1604 Arapahoe Ave.

#### **BROOMFIELD –**

BROOMFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
1 Eagle Way

#### **LONGMONT –**

OLDE COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL  
1200 South Sunset

#### **WESTMINSTER –**

WESTMINSTER HIGH SCHOOL  
4276 W. 68th Ave.

### May 20

#### **ARVADA –**

ARVADA MIDDLE SCHOOL  
5751 Balsam St.

#### **LAKEWOOD –**

BEAR CREEK HIGH SCHOOL  
3490 South Kipling St.

#### **LITTLETON –**

CHATFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
7227 South Simms Street

#### **WHEAT RIDGE –**

EVERITT MIDDLE SCHOOL  
3900 Kipling Street

### **About Regional Air Quality Council**

The Regional Air Quality Council is the lead air quality planning agency for the seven-county Denver metropolitan area. In existence since 1989, the Council's main purpose is to develop plans and programs to keep the region in compliance with federal air quality standards, with significant input from area



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citizens, business, and local governments. The RAQC also oversees the development and implementation of air quality outreach and education programs throughout the region.

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