

GRAEVES
AUTO & APPLIANCE

Family owned and operated
serving Montgomery County
since 1952...

the Shop Rag

A monthly publication filled with industry news, maintenance and safety tips, upcoming events, special coupons, and more!

In the News...

SmartCars...
are they safe?



The ForTwo did well enough in crash tests by the independent Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) to earn the group's highest rating—five stars—thanks to the car's steel racecar-style frame and liberal use of high-tech front and side airbags.

Despite such good safety performance for such a tiny car, IIHS testers caution that larger, heavier cars are inherently safer than smaller ones.

Auto Maintenance Tip...



Tire Wear

Your tires are a major component of your car and probably the most important (next to your seat belt!). While they often go neglected, it is important that you maintain them and check them for tire wear once a month, and before and after long

trips. Poor tire conditions mixed with poor road conditions (rain/snow) are a dangerous recipe and can often lead to tragic results.

Excessive speed, quick acceleration, hard braking, incorrect air pressure, not rotating regularly, unbalanced tires, bad alignment - all factors that contribute to premature wear on your car's tires. Is it time for new tires? Here is a quick test to see if your tires need to be replaced.



**Graeves Auto & Appliance is a
Certified American Car Care Center**

For more information please visit:
www.graevesauto.com

Tire Wear (con't from column 1)

Inspect the treads. Make sure you have at least 1/16th of an inch of tread remaining on the surface of the tire (the legal limit in most states). See the Lincoln penny trick below. Also, look for uneven tread wear or cupping of the tread surface. You can run your open hand along the surface of the tread and feel for these irregularities. If you are unsure, just have a certified technician check for you. This service should be free of charge.

**Use the Lincoln penny trick
to check your tire depth:**



Insert the penny upside down as shown. If any part of Lincoln's head is covered by the tread, you have a legal tire. Make sure you check several area on each tire as tread can wear unevenly.

Look for things embedded in each tire. Do you see nails, stones, or other debris embedded in the treads? It is okay to remove general debris but, if you're going to remove a nail, first make sure that your spare tire is inflated and in usable shape. Another option is to stop by a local garage and have the technician remove the nail and plug the tire at the same time.

Tire Wear (con't from front page)

Look at the sidewalls. Check for deeply scuffed or worn areas, bulges or bubbles, small slits, or holes. Do the tires fit evenly and snugly around the wheel rims?

In the Community...

Fall Fest

Sponsored by the Carl Freeman Companies

When: Saturday, October 11

1-3pm: Scarecrow making workshop
Where: Olney Town Center

2-4pm: Horse drawn hayrides.
Where: Olney Village Center

Everything is free so bring your family and friends out to help bring in the Fall!

Field of Screams

Sponsored by Olney Boys and Girls Club (OBGC)

OBGC's Field of Screams returns to Olney on October 3rd for 17 nights! One of the largest Halloween events in the Metro area, featuring:

- a 30-minute Haunted Trail
- a 2-story Haunted House
- a 10-acre Corn Maze, and
- a 15 minute Haunted Hayride.

Visit www.Screams.org for details on dates & times. OBGC is still seeking sponsors for Field of Screams - please contact Director@OBGC.com.

Auto Safety Tip...



Trick or Treat

Halloween is fast approaching! Be sure to drive slower than normal in residential areas and keep a sharp eye out for children darting across streets.

Question: When a child is hit by a car, does it really matter whose fault it is?

Let the Numbers Speak...

\$230,000,000,000

- The annual cost to society attributed to vehicle crashes. Yes, that is 230 billion dollars...

8 Spiders

- The average number humans eat (at night while they sleep) in their lifetime.

38 Minutes

- The total time of the shortest war between Zanzibar and England in 1896.

336 Dimples

- The total number on a regulation size golfball.

COUPON

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Print and bring this coupon with you to Graeves Auto & Appliance at the time of your auto service and receive a free tire and brake inspection plus 4 tire rotation with any bill totaling \$150 or more.
(This coupon may not be used in conjunction with any other promotions or coupons.)

Coupon expires: December 31, 2008

COUPON