

FUEL for Thought
Fall/Winter 2021

DOUGLAS
AUTOMOTIVE
Service with Integrity

It's Car Care Club Savings Time!

Only \$79.95 for Over \$400 in Service
\$90 Off Oil Changes • FREE Tire Rotation • Much More

And Yes, there's
MORE

The first 100 customers who purchase a Car Care Club Card will be entered into a drawing for a Dash Cam! One name selected from each shop.



\$30 OFF Oil Change (Up to 5qt.) Includes: one oil filter, lubricate chassis	\$30 OFF Oil Change (Up to 5qt.) Includes: one oil filter, lubricate chassis	1 FREE Pair of Wiper Blades (\$10 to \$24*)	\$30 OFF Rotate & Balance 4 Tires	CARD VALUE: \$420.60	\$55.25 OFF Comprehensive 150-Point Vehicle Inspection A \$95.25 value!
\$30 OFF Oil Change (Up to 5qt.) Includes: one oil filter, lubricate chassis	WILD CARD \$25 OFF Any Service Use with any service not on this card worth \$25 or more	\$35 OFF Brake Repair Front or Rear	\$35 OFF SES Light Diagnosis (Check Engine Light)	\$35 OFF Transmission Flush & Fill Includes removal and replacement of all fluid	FREE Battery Charging & Starting System Test A \$40.00 value!

Prep Your Car For Winter

It's more than just finding a window scraper

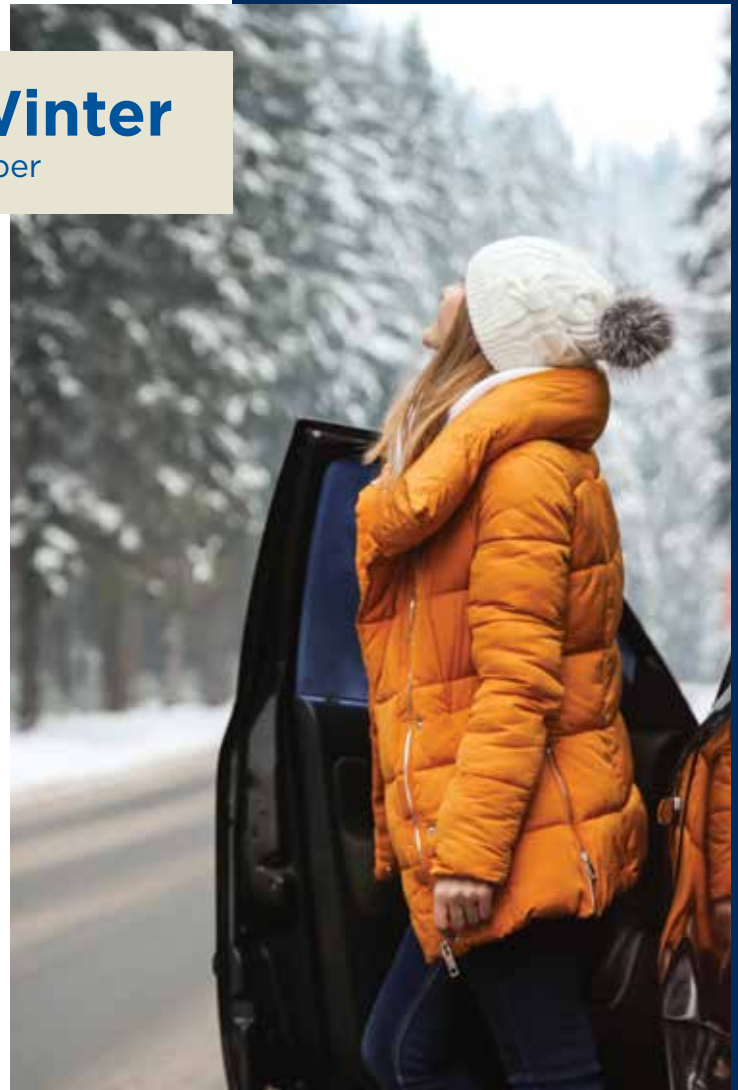
Frost may have already dusted your windshield. If not, we all know it will soon. We also know it's time to prepare to avoid the cold season's challenges.

You may have already covered the basics and are well aware of your car's regular scheduled service needs. If you haven't, now is a good time to get it done. Car issues that may be considered slight inconveniences in the summer can be a life-endangering hazards in the frigid winter weather.

Poor cell coverage and dead batteries happen! Keep current contact information... This includes your auto repair shop, AAA car membership (if you're a member), car insurance claim forms and an I.C.E. number (in case of emergency).

Other items to consider for your safety:

- ✓ **First Aid Kit**
- ✓ **Flashlight**
- ✓ **Multi-tool**
- ✓ **Matches**
- ✓ **Energy bars**
- ✓ **Water Bottles**
- ✓ **Weather Radio**
- ✓ **Seat belt cutter**
- ✓ **Window breaker**
- ✓ **Flares or reflective triangles**
- ✓ **Maps**
- ✓ **Blankets**
- ✓ **Ice scraper**
- ✓ **USB mobile device charger**



Manufacturers "Building-Shy"

Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), GM, has adopted a "build-shy" strategy in an effort to maintain production and jobs. Tens of thousands of unfinished vehicles are currently stockpiled in lots awaiting microchips. Drive by a GM facility in Illinois, Missouri, Texas, or Mexico and you'll likely see scores of pickups, SUVs and vans neatly aligned in the lots waiting for completion. But don't hold your breath, *Auto Trends Magazine* reports that this nasty chip shortage is predicted to last well into 2022.

Factors Impacting Car Production





Used Car Warning

Back in September, thousands of cars were damaged by Hurricane Ida. It's a good bet that some of them have made their way here to the Midwest, now available for resale. Those ruined cars are typically sold at salvage auctions to junkyards and vehicle rebuilders. Yet on occasions, they have shown up in dealer car lots. Reselling them to consumers may be legal if the title discloses the flood damage.

Tully Lehman, public affairs manager for the National Insurance Crime Bureau stated, "Unfortunately, following major hurricanes or flooding events, we see fraudsters try to scam consumers by selling cars damaged in the flooding." To make matters worse, the potential for fraud is even higher this year due to the shortage of microchips slowing production of new vehicles. This creates a prime opportunity for scammers to take advantage of buyers' interest.

According to Consumer Reports, flood damaged vehicles can have a serious impact on a vehicles electronics, lubricants, and mechanical system. Most times it's a slow progression as corrosion eventually grows into the vehicle's electronics. Services like Carfax or the National Insurance Crime Bureau's VINCheck allows you to input a car's vehicle identification number (VIN), to identify any red flags in the vehicle's history.

When buying a used car, check for the following before you sign on the dotted line:

- ✓ **A strong sent of air-freshener that might be used to cover a musty odor in the interior**
- ✓ **Loose upholstery or carpeting that may not match the rest of the interior**
- ✓ **Rust around doors, under the dashboard or inside the hood and trunk latches**
- ✓ **Silt in the corners of the glove compartment or under seats.**

Always test drive the car and have it inspected by a trusted mechanic.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE: WIN A \$25 GAS CARD!

Our trivia tradition continues. The first ten people to call us with the answer to our trivia question are entered in a drawing at the end of the month for a \$25 gas card. We make it easy! Just read the newsletter for answers to this issues trivia question and give us a call at any of our Douglas Automotive Repair Shops.

Question: What strategy has GM adopted in an effort to maintain production and jobs?