

Just Drive Happy

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The Light of Truth

ALL YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR AUTOMOTIVE WARNING SYSTEM

If only a check engine light could be planned like a lunch date...

This month we want to talk about the common habit of seeing a light come on the dashboard and not quite doing the right thing about it. How many times have we answered the unwelcome surprise with an "I'll get to it tomorrow" or "I'll take it in after that big presentation is over at work." We know you are busy and servicing your car at that exact moment certainly was not baked into your schedule. In the back of our minds we know it is inevitable...so why do we wait? Our vehicles have come a long way since the day when the only way you knew something was wrong was when something was really wrong. Your dash warning light is designed to ensure you avoid catastrophic damage to your vehicle and/or your engine, so why not pay it a little attention?

Listening to your cars warning signals and acting in a responsive manner is a great first step, however only bringing your car in for maintenance when a light goes on isn't exactly the best strategy either. A light triggered on the dash can often mean the damage has already been done or it's just around

the corner. The best way to avoid these stressful and unpredictable situations is through routine service and advanced notification, something at which L&M Automotive is an expert.

At L&M Automotive we have an automated system that can notify you via both text message and email when your vehicle is due for a variety of routine maintenance services. Either of these notices allow you to schedule an appointment directly from the notification, making coming in for a visit as effortless as possible. The L&M team is here to ensure we do everything we can to keep the warning lights off. If we are taking routine care of your vehicle together, you shouldn't need to worry about another one of those lights again.

So why wait until the light comes on or your sticker dictates you are due for an oil change? Come pay us a visit and let us have a look around every so often. Take the notifications seriously and let us catch minor issues before they turn into major problems. Trust us, we care about your vehicle's health too.

CUT OUT THE HANDY CHART AT THE RIGHT AND KEEP IN YOUR GLOVE COMPARTMENT



DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE SYMBOLS ABOVE STAND FOR?

From Top to Bottom, Left to Right

- BRAKE** - Braking system is not working properly. This can be caused by warped rotors, low brake pads or a leak in the brake fluid line.
- COOLANT** - Blue Color is good, Red is bad.
- BRAKE FLUID** - Low brake fluid.
- BRAKE PADS** - Low brake pads.
- ENGINE** - There are issues with the engine. If this light comes on get to a repair shop as soon as possible.
- BATTERY** - System is detecting either a low charge on battery or an error in the charging system.
- START SYSTEM** - Start system fault.
- OVERHEATING** - Engine coolant temperature indicator.
- SEAT BELT REMINDER** - Buckle up for safety!
- TRANSMISSION** - There is an issue with the drive train.
- OIL LEVEL** - Low Oil or no Oil in your engine.
- ABS** - A problem with the electronic control of the braking system.
- ELECTRONIC BRAKING** - There is an issue with the electronic braking system.
- POWER STEERING** - Trouble with power steering.
- SERVICE REMINDER** - Many vehicles have built in intervals for standard maintenance based on manufacturer specs.
- MASTER WARNING LIGHT** - There should be text on your dash explaining the issue. If not take your car in for service check immediately.