

Demystifying the oil change interval

Bill Wilson and his crew at Crown Point Auto Repair know about cars and think you should, too. They need regular maintenance. Little problems can quickly turn into big problems when they are ignored, and a vehicle's life expectancy is greatly increased when it's treated with a little care.

For years, 3,000 miles was thought of as the optimum interval for changing your motor oil and filter. Automobile, oil filter, and lubricant manufacturers have been educating consumers that oil drain intervals can be safely extended, saving you time, money, and reducing the impact on the environment.

Breakthroughs in lubrication and filtration technology are two reasons why oil change intervals can be extended. Numerous factors come in to play when determining the oil change interval you should follow, including: whether your car is under warranty, the car's condition, wear and tear you put on your vehicle, and your oil and filter selection.

Every automobile manufacturer establishes a recommended oil change interval for each model they manufacture. If your car is no longer under warranty, you can extend your oil change and filter intervals by upgrading to a high quality synthetic motor oil and high performance oil filter. This will reduce the number of oil changes, saving you time and money, and reducing the amount of oil purchased, and disposed.

If you elect to upgrade your motor oil, you should also upgrade your oil filter. Inexpensive filters are typically made with the 3,000-mile interval in mind. These filters often use low-quality paper media for filtration and they deteriorate rapidly after 3,000 miles.

Don't get hung up on oil change myths. Upgrade to a premium synthetic motor oil and take advantage of the benefits: better wear protection for your vehicle's engine, extended oil change intervals resulting in money savings and a reduced impact on the environment.

If you're interested in learning more about proper vehicle maintenance, contact Bill Wilson, master mechanic and owner of Crown Point Auto Repair, or one his crew at 219-663-1847.