

Inspection Station Updates Webinar September 20, 2022

Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR) available online - October 1, 2022

Sticker expiration change - November 1, 2022

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REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Agenda



Current State



Future State



Objectives and Benefits



Messaging



FAQs

Current State

All vehicles registered in Massachusetts must be inspected and issued a passing sticker to remain on the road



All vehicles receive a vehicle inspection report (VIR)



The penalty for expired or uninspected vehicles that can be received is a citation (a surchargeable event)



Inspection stickers are valid for one year and expire at the end of the last day of the month which the sticker was issued or when the registration is cancelled

Future State

All vehicles registered in Massachusetts must be inspected and issued a passing sticker to remain on the road



Only vehicles that fail inspection will receive a vehicle inspection report



The penalty for expired or uninspected vehicles that can be received is a citation (a surchargeable event)



Inspection stickers are valid for one year and expire at the end of the last day of the month which the sticker was issued or when the registration is cancelled



NEW INSPECTION STICKER RECEIVED IS BASED ON WHEN THE PREVIOUS STICKER EXPIRED

Objectives and Benefits

- **The objective** of the inspection compliance campaign is to:
 - Inform customers about changes to the calculation of the inspection sticker expiration date and the scenarios involved
 - Inform customers of the adverse consequences of not getting their vehicle inspected on time
 - Inform customers the VIR is available online for passing inspection and a failed inspection will still receive a VIR
- **The benefit** of the inspection compliance campaign is to:
 - Encourage customers to get their vehicles inspected in a timely manner (MGL c.90 s.7A/540 CMR 4.00)
 - Ensure the safety of vehicles actively registered
 - Protect the safety of the Commonwealth's environment and roadways

Press release

Distributed by
MassDOT to media
outlets statewide on
September 8.

[https://www.mass.gov/
news/new-motor-
vehicle-inspection-
stickers-0](https://www.mass.gov/news/new-motor-vehicle-inspection-stickers-0)

New: Motor Vehicle Inspection Stickers

- **Starting November 1, vehicles passing inspection will get a new sticker with the month the last sticker expired, valid for one year**
- **Starting October 1, vehicle owners will no longer receive a printed inspection report when a vehicle passes inspection**

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing, effective November 1, 2022, motor vehicles passing required inspections will get a new sticker with the month the last sticker expired, valid for one year. Any vehicle owner late in getting a vehicle inspected, beyond one year from the last inspection, will no longer get a sticker displaying the month the new inspection occurred.

Vehicles with inspection stickers that expired last year will receive a January sticker of the current year the vehicle is being inspected, no matter the month the vehicle is inspected this year. This change does not impact the requirements for newly purchased vehicles. All newly purchased vehicles must be inspected within seven days of the vehicle registration date and will receive a sticker of the month in which it was inspected and is valid for one year.

“Safety of the Commonwealth’s roadways is the most important reason for motor vehicle inspections. Vehicle inspections check tire treads, ensure all light signals are working and even check the front ball joints. It is the law that motor vehicles are inspected every year,” said Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. “Vehicle owners are required to have the inspection done one year from the month the last inspection was done. We are asking all vehicle owners to place safety first and make sure to check your inspection date, and don’t be late.”

“Light-duty cars and trucks are equipped with emission control systems that reduce pollution to protect public health and the environment. It is important that these systems are tested annually to ensure proper emissions controls,” said Commissioner Martin Suuberg of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). “The change being implemented by the RMV will help ensure that all vehicles are inspected every year.”

The penalty for driving vehicles with an expired sticker, or driving an uninspected vehicle, may result in a moving violation and lead to additional fines, or suspension if unpaid, and even a surchargeable incident which increases the vehicle owner’s insurance costs.

There is no change for owners who get their vehicles inspected on time or before the due date. Owners will continue to receive the sticker with the number of the month in which the vehicle was inspected.

In addition, starting October 1, 2022, in an effort to reduce paper waste in the environment, vehicle owners will no longer receive a printed inspection report when a vehicle passes inspection. Instead, owners can easily access and print a report by going online to Mass Vehicle Check or by using a cell phone and scanning the QR code on the poster displayed at the inspection site. If a vehicle fails the inspection, the owner will be provided with a printed vehicle inspection report by the inspection station.

The Massachusetts Vehicle Check, a joint effort between the MassDEP and the RMV, is the vehicle emissions testing and safety inspection program for the Commonwealth. Vehicle owners can get an inspection at any of the 1,800 licensed inspection stations in Massachusetts.

For more information, please visit: [Vehicle inspections | Mass.gov](#).

Support Material

- Beginning in September, posters and FAQs will be delivered by APPLUS, DEP, and RMV's field staff to inspection stations

Poster

- Please display the poster in your station within a customer area for public information.


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INSPECTION UPDATES

Vehicle Inspection Report and Sticker Expiration

GO GREEN – GO ONLINE!

Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR) Update

Effective October 1, 2022

- You **will not** receive a printed vehicle inspection report for a **passed inspection**
- To access and print your report, go to mavehiclecheck.com or scan the QR code below with your smartphone:



- A vehicle inspection report will still be provided for a **failed inspection**

DON'T BE LATE – CHECK THE DATE!

Sticker Expiration Update

Effective November 1, 2022

If you are **late** with getting your vehicle inspected:

- Your new sticker will have the number of the month your inspection was **originally due**; **not** the number of the month your vehicle is now being inspected

If your inspection sticker **expired last year**:


- Your vehicle will receive a January sticker (1) of the **current year** your vehicle is being inspected; no matter the month your vehicle is inspected this year

QUESTIONS? Email RMVinspection@dot.state.ma.us
Save time and go online, Mass.Gov/RMV, to process over 40 transactions
Follow us on Twitter [@MassRMV](https://twitter.com/MassRMV)



Support Material

Double-sided FAQs

- Helpful information for stations that can be used to answer customer questions.



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Dear Inspection Station Partner:

Thank you for your continued partnership as we implement updates to the *Vehicle Inspection Report and the Inspection Sticker Calendar*.

To support you in answering any questions from customers, we are sharing with you a list of FAQs as suggested talking points.

If you have any questions, please send an email to contactus@mavehiclecheck.com or call customer service at 844-358-0135.

Thank you.

GO GREEN – GO ONLINE!
Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR) Update
Effective October 1, 2022

DON'T BE LATE – CHECK THE DATE!
Sticker Expiration Update
Effective November 1, 2022

Talking Points for Inspection Stations

1 CUSTOMER QUESTION
What is different with my motor vehicle inspection?

INSPECTOR RESPONSE

- You will no longer get a printed paper (Vehicle Inspection Report) after your vehicle passes inspection which shows you passed inspection. However, anyone who has a vehicle failing the inspection, will get a printed Vehicle Inspection Report.
- The Registry does have electronic information about the status of vehicles and will know if your vehicle passed or failed an inspection.
 - If you want a copy of the Vehicle Inspection Report showing you passed, you may go online to Mass Vehicle Check and print a copy.
 - You may also use your cell phone and scan the QR code on the poster displayed in the waiting area. The QR code will bring you to Mass Vehicle Check website.
 - To look up your report online, make sure you have your license plate number and vehicle identification number (VIN). This information can be found on your vehicle registration document.

2 CUSTOMER QUESTION
Why can't I get a printed copy of my Vehicle Inspection Report if my vehicle passes inspection?

INSPECTOR RESPONSE

- We're saving paper, which is better for the environment and means less paper in landfills.

3 CUSTOMER QUESTION
Are there any changes to fees for vehicle inspections?

INSPECTOR

- There are no changes to inspection fees



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Talking Points for Inspection Stations

4 CUSTOMER QUESTION
What is new with the expiration sticker?

INSPECTOR RESPONSE

- Vehicles with an expired sticker at the time of inspection may not receive a new sticker that's valid for a full calendar year.
 - If your vehicle inspection was due in any month prior to the time of inspection, and within this calendar year, the vehicle will get the sticker with the month the inspection was due.
 - If your vehicle inspection was due last calendar year or any prior year, the vehicle will get a January sticker of the current calendar year.

5 CUSTOMER QUESTION
Why change the inspection calendar for vehicles with an expired sticker?

INSPECTOR RESPONSE

- It's essential to the safety of the Commonwealth's environment and roadways that customers have their vehicles inspected in a timely manner – and it's the law. (Per MA General Law c.90s.7A)
- Also, driving your vehicle with an expired sticker, or driving an uninspected vehicle, may result in a moving violation, additional fines, a suspension, and even a surchargeable incident that increases your insurance costs.

6 CUSTOMER QUESTION
Does the sticker expiration change affect customers who have their vehicles inspected on time or before their sticker expires?

INSPECTOR RESPONSE

- No, the sticker expiration calendar remains the same for vehicles inspected on time or before the due date.

7 CUSTOMER QUESTION
What are some examples of vehicles not receiving a sticker for a full calendar year?

INSPECTOR RESPONSE

- If your vehicle is inspected after the month that it is due, yet in the same year, such as your vehicle has a sticker with an expiration of September 2022 and your vehicle is inspected (after the due date) in October 2022 – you will receive a sticker with a September 2023 expiration date.
- If your vehicle is inspected beyond the next calendar year after expiration, such as your vehicle has a sticker with an expiration date of October 2021 and your vehicle is inspected (after the due date) in June 2022 – you will receive sticker with a January 2023 expiration date.

Vehicle Inspection Report (VIR)

Starting October 1, 2022

- Customers will not receive a passing VIR from the inspection station
- Inspection station will direct customers to MA Vehicle Check to access and print their VIR
- Customers **will continue** to receive a VIR for a failed vehicle inspection
- Inspection stations **will still be required** to print passing VIRs for vehicles registered out-of-state that receive a reciprocal inspection

Scenarios: Sticker Expiration Change – Starting November 1, 2022

Case	Current Result	Proposed Result
Vehicle is inspected in the month it is due	Vehicle has sticker expiration of 6 (June) 2022; vehicle receives new sticker with a 6 (June) 2023 expiration date.	No change - Vehicle has sticker expiration of 6 (June) 2022; vehicle receives new sticker with a 6 (June) 2023 expiration date.
Vehicle is inspected before the month that it is due	Vehicle has current sticker expiration of 7 (July) 2022; vehicle receives new sticker with a 6 (June) 2023 expiration date.	No Change - Vehicle has current sticker expiration of 7 (July) 2022; vehicle receives new sticker with a 6 (June) 2023 expiration date.
Vehicle is inspected after the month that it is due, but in the same year.	Vehicle has sticker expiration of 4 (April) 2022; vehicle is inspected in June 2022 and receives sticker with a 6 (June) 2023 expiration date.	New Change - Vehicle has sticker expiration of 4 (April) 2022; vehicle is inspected in June 2022 and receives sticker with a 4 (April) 2023 expiration date.
Vehicle is inspected beyond the next calendar year after expiration	Vehicle has sticker with an expiration date of 10 (October) 2021; vehicle is inspected in June 2022 and receives sticker with a 6 (June) 2023 expiration date.	New Change - Vehicle has sticker with an expiration date of 10 (October) 2021; vehicle is inspected in June 2022 and receives sticker with a 1 (January) 2023 expiration date. Note: Current program is unable to print stickers from a previous calendar year.

Just as today, expired inspection sticker status will be visible to law enforcement which may result in a citation and an insurance surcharge.

Messaging Summary

**Check the Date -
Don't be Late!**

An expired vehicle inspection sticker is a moving violation that may lead to additional fines or suspension if unpaid

Please remind your customers of this change and to get vehicles inspected on time

FAQs

- **Is there a fine associated with an expired inspection sticker?**
 - Not from the RMV, however a citation from law enforcement is \$50.
- **What are the go-live dates?**
 - Vehicle Inspection Reports (VIR) - October 1, 2022;
 - Inspection expiration change – November 1, 2022
- **Are there any other associated changes?**
 - Yes, inspection stations will no longer print VIRs for passing vehicles; VIRs will be available online at MA Vehicle Check
 - Out-of-state inspections and failed inspections will receive a (paper) VIR report
- **Is there a new or revised regulatory language explaining the non-renew status?**
 - The law allows the RMV to impose a non-renew status on a registration that does not have a valid inspection sticker.

Questions?

rmvinspection@dot.state.ma.us

APPLUS: 1-844-358-0135

