

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: John O'Connor
Shade Tree Garage
973-540-9880
john@shadetreegarage.com

SHADE TREE GARAGE TO ACCEPT EXPIRED CAR SAFETY SEATS **State's first municipal recycling effort scheduled to begin in Morristown on May 9th**

Morristown, New Jersey, April 16, 2009 A special day has been designated in Morristown, NJ to kick-off the State's first recycling effort for expired infant and child safety seats. On Saturday, May 9, 2008, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, residents can go to the Morristown Town Hall Parking lot where they will learn how to take apart an infant/child safety seat and prepare it for recycling. After May 9th, the town will begin collecting properly disassembled car seats at curbside. Town residents will also be able to drop their disassembled car seats off at Shade Tree Garage and Marty's Reliable Cycle in Morristown.

Most people are unaware that car safety seats expire five to six years after production. The plastics used in these seats deteriorate over time from sun and heat exposure and the seats become unsafe for use. Also, if a car seat has been in an accident, its protective qualities may be further compromised. Up to this point in time, owners have had two choices for disposing of the used or expired seats - giving them away or throwing them in the trash. Charities and consignment or thrift shops have no way of screening the seats to know if they have expired or been in an accident and anyone picking up a car seat that has been placed at the curb for disposal are unknowingly putting their child at risk.

When contacted by the Morristown Moms and Tots group, John O'Connor, owner of Shade Tree Garage, was all too happy to help as a designated drop-off location. "At Shade Tree Garage our mission has always been to give people peace of mind about the safety and reliability of their car. This car seat recycling program is the perfect extension of that mission," says O'Connor. He further states, "We're also excited to be part of a program that benefits the members of our community. Morristown has been the home of our business since 1975. We're proud of this community and pleased to be able to give back."

According to the Morristown Moms and Tots' Recycling Committee Members, Linnea Hasegawa and Jennifer Carcich, "there are many (possibly over one hundred) car safety seat recycling programs across the country; however, as far as we know, none exists in the State of New Jersey." They began working with the Town of Morristown in early March to develop what will now be the first curbside car seat recycling program in the State.

After May 9th, residents will be able to drop their disassembled child safety seats at Shade Tree Garage between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. As an incentive to recycling these car seats, Shade Tree Garage will offer a \$3.00 discount on oil changes, when you bring your expired child safety seat to our location at 171 Washington Street in Morristown. Anyone taking advantage of the oil change discount should call 973-540-9880 to schedule an appointment.

Shade Tree Garage is an independent automotive repair shop located in Morristown, New Jersey. They work hard to accomplish their mission: "To give you peace of mind about the safety and reliability of your car." To schedule an appointment for automotive repair or servicing call Shade Tree Garage at 973-540-9880.

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