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AUTO REPAIR SHOPS - THE LATEST TO GO GREEN **Shade Tree Garage and Other Auto Repair Shops Go Green this Earth Day**

Morristown, New Jersey, April 22, 2009 Did you ever think you'd hear the term "going green" when it comes to automotive repair? With Earth Day here, many are renewing their interest in a more environmentally-friendly way of living. For AAA and the New Jersey Green Automotive Repair Program (NJGARP), Earth Day commemorates the announcement of their "Green Certification" program for automotive repair facilities throughout the State... one who will be recognized with them will be John O'Connor, owner of Shade Tree Garage in Morristown, NJ.

Shade Tree Garage is one of a group of seven automotive repair shops and dealerships to provide input in the development of the Green Certification program. "We are honored to be selected as one of the first auto repair facilities in New Jersey to be certified Green," states O'Connor. He further states, "It's especially honoring to know our facility has met the inspection and evaluation requirements to be considered a Green Auto Repair Facility. It re-affirms our commitment to being a leader in the automotive repair industry."

All automotive repair shops must meet certain environmental standards mandated by the government. A "green" automotive repair facility, however, goes beyond these requirements and takes additional measures to protect the environment, save resources, and keep New Jersey clean. Shade Tree Garage has been an environmentally-friendly shop, even before it became the "in" thing to do. In fact, they have been helping New Jersey drivers comply with the stricter emission requirements for many years now. As a State-certified Emissions Repair Facility Shade Tree Garage is one of a few that owns a dynamometer - the machine used to test car emissions.

Shops that want to be considered for the program must complete an application and a fairly detailed checklist that identifies everything from how the shop handles such things as pollution prevention, resource conservation, solid waste reduction and recycling. The automotive repair facility must implement enough of these measures to accumulate 300 points. Upon the initial application, AAA New Jersey will inspect the facility to verify its qualifications as a "green" facility.

NJGARP was established by AAA New Jersey, the New Jersey Coalition of Automotive Retailers (NJCAR) and the New Jersey Gasoline C-Store Automotive Association (NJGCA), in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). The purpose of the program is to promote green practices among automotive repair facilities and to recognize the independent repair shops and dealerships that implement environmentally-sound practices.

The press conference announcing the roll-out of this program was held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009.

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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