

## WELCOME

to L1 Automotive's first newsletter. Inside you will find maintenance information about your vehicle and articles to help you better understand the systems in your vehicle. We will spotlight our techs and invite you to learn more about our family plus all of us at the shop. We want to help you understand what is happening in our industry and business and how these things affect you as our customer. We will also throw in fun facts, upcoming local events, trivia and much more.

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# Automotive Insider

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## Summer Travel: Is Your Car Ready?

Tow truck operators in resort areas or along Interstate highways see all too many travelers forced to return home ahead of schedule. Car trouble, usually due to neglected preventive maintenance, brings an abrupt end to vacation plans.

The situation usually means more than just a repair bill. It can involve towing charges, lodging and possibly a rental car. Add to that the cost of extra phone calls, meals and general inconvenience, and the ordeal becomes expensive.

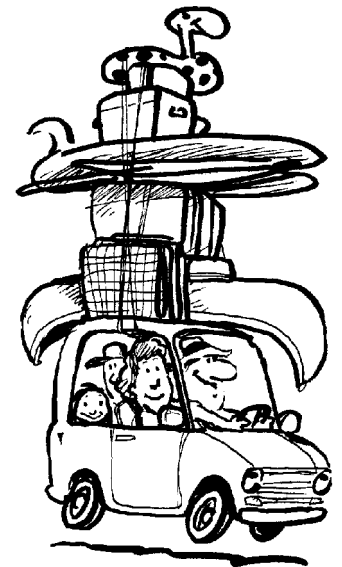
This scenario usually can be avoided with a pre-vacation inspection performed by a qualified automotive technician. This "physical" for your automobile should address the following systems:

- Cooling
- Braking
- Emission control
- Steering/suspension
- Fuel
- Electrical and ignition

In addition, the tech should evaluate engine performance, tires/wheels, A.C./heater/defroster, instruments/gauges, windshield wipers, horns/lights/mirrors, seat belts and the car's body, inside and out.

Not only can a pre-trip inspection help reduce chances of costly and possibly dangerous road trouble, it also provides an opportunity to have repairs made at home, with one's own technician who knows the vehicle. Especially important, it provides peace of mind. While no inspection can guarantee a car's performance, it's comforting to know proper precautions were taken.

Article Courtesy of: [CarCareAware.org](http://CarCareAware.org)



### Pre-trip Vehicle Inspection Special

Let us keep you on the road safe, inspection includes:

- Cooling
- Braking
- Steering/Suspension
- Fuel
- Lights, mirrors & wipers
- Rotate Tires

# \$22\*

\* Dually trucks slightly higher

**Schedule Today!**  
**970-532-0373**

Expires: 6/1510

*“The rollercoaster hasn’t slowed, we welcomed our first child in August 2008 and look forward to celebrating our 5th wedding anniversary this fall.”*

*Survey Findings: 19% of cars needed new belts*

## Meet the Owners: The Start of the Dream

As with every small business, there is a story about the owners and their humble beginnings. Greg & Nicole are no different. Five years ago the idea of opening a business was only a dream. Greg had spent the past 10+ years working for Toyota with the goal of becoming a Toyota Trained and Certified Master Technician. This goal was achieved in the Spring of 2007 when Greg also realized that he didn’t want to be an employee anymore, he wanted to be the boss! Not more than 3 months

later the ball was rolling and L1 Automotive opened August 2007. When the shop opened it’s doors, Nicole was a full-time student at CSU starting her final semester in the business program with a concentration on accounting. Nicole is finishing her CPA licensing requirements and works full-time for a public accounting firm in Longmont. Three years later the shop has grown and employs 2 full time techs and 1 part-time tech. The roller-coaster didn’t slow down as we welcomed our first child

in August of 2008. We are also looking forward to celebrating our 5th wedding anniversary this fall.



## Vehicle Systems: Belts & Hoses

### What is it?

You car’s belts and hoses are essential to the cooling, air conditioning and charging systems, and the engine. Don’t take these routine replacement intervals for granted because they can break down and leave you stranded.

### What does it do?

The timing belt keeps the crankshaft and camshaft mechanically synchronized to maintain engine timing. Whether serpentine, V-belt or fan belt (the belts on the outside of the engine), they all transmit power from the front of the engine to accessories that need to be driven, such as the air conditioning, the charging system and fans. Radiator and

heat hoses carry coolant to and from the engine, radiator and heater core.

### Typical Wear and Tear

Key items that affect the replacement interval for belts and hoses:

- Vehicle age
- Electrolytic corrosion
- Mileage
- Oil contamination
- Belt tension
- Failed hose clamps

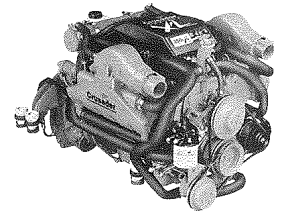
### Symptoms

- Squeaking noise from under the hood during start-up or operation
- Coolant leaks
- Dashboard light illuminates

### Replacement

Belts should be checked every 3,000 miles for wear and tear and replaced when

cracked, frayed, glazed or showing signs of excessive wear. The timing belt should be replaced per the interval specified in the owner’s manual which is typically every 60,000 to 90,000 miles. Not replacing the belts as required could result in breakdown or serious engine damage.



Article Courtesy of:  
CarCareAware.org

**\$50 off  
Timing Belt  
Replacement**

Expires: 6/15/2010

# Cruise Moab 2010



Moab—2009

Cruise Moab is an annual event where Toyota 4x4 enthusiasts gather the first weekend in May in Moab, Utah. The event is sanc-

tioned by the Toyota Land Cruiser Association (TLCA) and put on by the Rising Sun 4x4 Club based in Denver.

Every year fellow Toyota owners from all over the United States and beyond gather in the beautiful Utah desert for guided trail runs, to see each others' rigs and to exchange stories.

We have attended this annual event as a family since 2008 -

Jayden wouldn't be born for another three months. This year we will be joined by Jayden's grandmother as well as some close friends.

We take our 1998 Toyota 4-Runner and challenge it to perform every year, and it has yet to let us down. We look forward to when Greg's 1966 Toyota FJ40 Land Cruiser rebuild is complete and it can make the trip with us.



## Tech Spotlight: Sean M.



Sean has over 20 years of automotive repair experience which he gained in various local independent repair shops. He previously owned a high performance diesel shop prior to joining L1 Automotive in early 2009. Sean's specialty is diesels and high perform-

ance diesel. His passion for cars and high performance go beyond the shop to the drag strip. Sean owns a 1967 Firebird that he drag races as well as a 1999 Dodge Diesel pick-up. When not at the shop or track, Sean enjoys time with his wife and two daughters

as well as playing the drums and bike riding.

## Fuel Saving Tips

### Vehicle gas caps

About 17 percent of the vehicles on the roads have gas caps that are either damaged, loose or are missing altogether, causing 147 million gallons of gas to vaporize every year.

### Worn spark plugs

A vehicle can have either four, six or eight spark plugs, which fire as many as 3 million times every 1,000 miles, resulting in a lot of heat and electrical and chemical erosion. A dirty spark plug causes misfiring, which wastes fuel. Spark plugs need to be replaced regularly.

### Under inflated tires

When tires aren't inflated properly it's like driving with the parking brake on and can cost a mile or two per gallon.

### Dirty air filters

An air filter that is clogged with dirt, dust and bugs chokes off the air and creates a "rich" mixture – too much gas being burned for the amount of air, which wastes gas and causes the engine to lose power. Replacing a clogged air filter can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent, saving about 15 cents a gallon.

Courtesy of: The Car Care Council



190 Bunyan Avenue, Unit I-D  
Berthoud, CO 80513

Phone: 970-532-0373

E-mail: [info@L1Automotive.com](mailto:info@L1Automotive.com)

## Local Upcoming Events

**2nd Friday of every month**  
**A Night on The Town**  
**6-9 p.m. - Downtown Loveland**

Local businesses and art galleries are open later with many offering:

- \* Special Guests
- \* Refreshments
- \* Appetizers
- \* Giveaways

**June 5, 2010**  
**56th Annual Berthoud Day**

Great music, games and fun for children of all ages.

6:30 - 11:00 am Pancake breakfast - Lions Club Depot on 3rd Street  
8:00 am Berthoud Habitat for Humanity 5k Run - Fickle Park  
11:00 am Berthoud Day Parade  
12:00 - 10:00 pm Berthoud Day Festivities - Berthoud Town Park  
3:00 pm Old Time Vintage Baseball Game

For more information visit:  
[www.berthoudcolorado.com/berthoudday](http://www.berthoudcolorado.com/berthoudday)

[www.L1Automotive.com](http://www.L1Automotive.com)

Visit our new website for information on:

- ◆ Preventative Maintenance
- ◆ General Maintenance
- ◆ Helpful Car Care Tips
- ◆ Services Offered
- ◆ Warranties
- ◆ Customer Feedback

