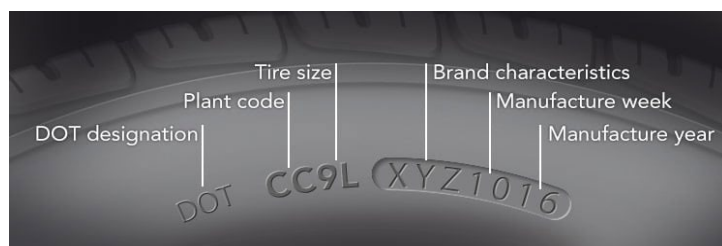




Spring has sprung, and the busy travel and tourism season is just around the corner. To keep your fleet ready and running in the best possible condition, be sure to follow the maintenance inspection prescribed in your warranty and owner's manual. You can also go the extra mile by including these five spring tune-up tips in your maintenance checklist.

## #1 TIRES

Keep in mind that your tires have a finite lifecycle that is measured in both use and years. Monitor the wear on your tires by ensuring they have proper uniform patterns, tread depth, and air pressure before each trip. Ensure your tires are within



the manufacturer's recommended replacement timeframe by using the embossed stamp on the sidewall of the tire to determine its manufacture date and age. Following these guidelines can help reduce the likelihood of dangerous conditions like dry rot.

## #2 COOLANT

A well working coolant system is imperative to preventing your vehicle from overheating on long trips and keeping it running reliably as weather gets warmer. Check the sight glass level regularly, and designate time for more in-depth inspections that can maintain your system in the long term: Check for corrosion inside the engine and components. Use test strip kits to check the concentration of additive packages, which can deteriorate over time and become ineffective. Don't rely solely on coolant filters that contain SCA pellets, as they may not be enough to meet your needs.



## #3 HVAC

A properly functioning climate control system keeps your passengers comfortable through all seasons. It's important to check periodically throughout the year that air ducts are clear and valves are open and operating. Keep in mind



that spring and summer mornings can still be cool and damp, resulting in the need to defrost the windshield. Even as outside temperatures get warmer, your coach's heater plays a key role by keeping the air conditioner working trouble-free. Bleeding the heater cores regularly will ensure there is no trapped air that could disrupt coolant flow. (Yes, the same coolant in tip #2.)

## #4 AESTHETICS

A clean vehicle is one of the easiest ways to visually demonstrate your company's regular maintenance routines. A shiny, washed, and waxed exterior makes a strong impression on those viewing from the outside while a complete interior detail offers passengers inside a more comfortable and pleasant experience. Clean upholstery stains and remove any unpleasant odors. Vacuum seat tracks and deep into HVAC return ducts. Pay especially close attention to less obvious locations and small crevices where debris can accumulate. Open and inspect all doors and panels, checking inside and out for any possible signs of animals that may have established shelter during the winter.

## #5 TECHNICIAN TUNE UPS

Go beyond the bus: Tune-up the skill levels of your maintenance staff and make sure they're up-to-date on the most current information and technology.

MCI's Learning Management System (LMS) is a great 24/7 tool for reviewing what you already know, expanding into new skill sets, and keeping current with technology advancements or other updates and changes. You can even find more

information about the tips we shared above. This ASE-accredited, award-winning program is free to MCI customers; you just need to register to add it to your 'toolbox'.

Take your training a step further by enrolling in one of the classes on our [2024 MCI Academy schedule](#). MCI Academy is the only 5-time recipient of the ASE ATMC 'National Excellence in Training' award, free to MCI customers, and open for enrollment now. Classes are filling up fast, so find your program and [register today](#).

