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❒ VISIT B
FREE SPRING OR FALL SERVICES
1. OIL, LUBE & FILTER (5W30 - 5 litre max. house oil) Non-synthetic specialty oils $1 per litre - extra charge)
2. Inspection of shocks and struts
3. 30- point safety inspection
4. Tighten all belt drives

❒ VISIT C
FREE SUMMER SERVICES
1. OIL, LUBE & FILTER (5W30 - 5 litre max. house oil) Non-synthetic specialty oils $1 per litre - extra charge)
2. Check steering components
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FALL CAR CARE

A Special Supplement to the Winchester Press



November 8, 2006

How old is your antifreeze/coolant?



With winter just around the corner, some of us are more prepared than others.

Some folks have had their cord wood stacked for months, their snow blower tuned and their snow tires switched over, but still aren't fully protected where they need to be most: under the hood of their car or truck.

Some people mistakenly believe that they can simply "top off" the antifreeze/coolant in their vehicle with water or antifreeze/coolant concentrate alone. This can be a recipe for disaster if not done as recommended in a vehicle's owner manual. Regularly scheduled cooling system maintenance, which may include "flush and fills" and should include checking antifreeze/coolant level/concentration for required top offs, is a typical minimal requirement for all car and truck preparation for winter season. Regrettably, some people fail to take the proper precautions to protect their vehicles, and winter's extreme temperatures can cause them to pay dearly for their oversight.

Ethylene glycol based antifreeze and good quality soft water, the major component of the coolant, keep cooling system components protected from freezing at very low temperatures, prevent boil-over during hot summer months, and guard from rust and corrosion year round. If people wait too long to change their antifreeze/coolant, the used coolant could harm their cooling system components and compromise freezing, boiling and corrosion protection. Similar to having a pipe freeze in your home, the cooling system components in your car, including hoses, heater core, water pump, radiator, and even the engine itself, can burst or break, leading to expensive, but preventable repairs, or in some cases engine replacement.

"The antifreeze in people's cars is something most people forget until disaster strikes," according to Megan Currie, Prestone product manager. "The good news is that it's easier than ever to get it done and get it done right with our "All Makes, All Models" antifreeze/coolant, which is available as a concentrate or premixed for top-off convenience."

The proliferation of new products has given more choices to consumers, but at the same time has confused many people who aren't sure if what they find at their local store is appropriate for their vehicle. Prestone takes the uncertainty out of the buying process by introducing an "All Makes, All Models" antifreeze/coolant that is compatible and works with antifreeze/coolants in virtually all cars and trucks on the road.

Prestone also sells an antifreeze/coolant tester that is easy to use, and helps drivers determine the concentration and quality (visual) of their antifreeze/coolant.

More antifreeze tips are available online at www.Prestone.com.

- News Canada

FEATURED ON OUR COVER



This year, the Press *test drove the 2007 Chevy Avalanche courtesy of Laplante Chevrolet Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd. in Casselman. For Bonnie James' review, please see Page 6.*

Press Photos — James

The label that can save you money

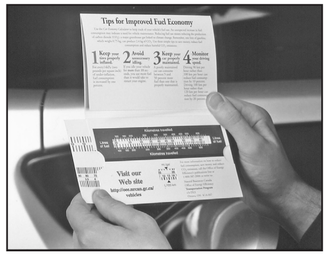
If you're in the market for a new car or light-duty truck, look for the EnerGuide label on the vehicle's window and you could save a bundle at the pump. The label shows city and highway fuel consumption ratings for that particular vehicle, as well as how much it could cost you every year in fuel. Anyone thinking of buying a new car should be aware of the EnerGuide label and use it as a quick reference. By comparing the EnerGuide label right there on the lot, buyers can make a more informed choice about how to choose a more fuel-efficient vehicle. The EnerGuide label is one of many tools consumers can use to help them buy, drive and maintain their vehicles in ways that will conserve energy, preserve the environment, protect their health and save money. Natural Resources Canada produces a myriad of other helpful tips and tools on fuel efficiency such as the Fuel Consumption Guide, Fuel Consumption Calculator, Auto$mart Guide and of course its annual EnerGuide Awards handed out every year for the most fuel efficient vehicles in Canada. For more information on how you can achieve greater fuel efficiency, visit vehicles.gc.ca or call 1-800-387-2000.

- News Canada



Tuck this in your glove box: the Fuel Consumption Calculator

Everyone wants to save money at the pumps. So why not track and improve your fuel efficiency every time you drive. Natural Resources Canada has produced a handy Fuel Consumption Calculator you can tuck in your glove box.



The tri-fold calculator gives you a sliding rule to track and how many kilometers you're driving, the total number of litres of fuel you're consuming, calculate your litres per 100 kilometres or miles per gallon, your estimated annual carbon dioxide emissions and your fuel costs.

There really is no better way to see where your fill-up dollars are going.

The Fuel Consumption Calculator is one of many tools consumers can use to help them buy, drive and maintain their vehicles in ways that will conserve energy, preserve the environment, and protect their health and save money. Visit Natural Resources Canada's website at vehicles.gc.ca or call 1-800-387-2000 to learn about the EnerGuide Label for Vehicles, the Fuel Consumption Guide and to learn about other tips and tools to encourage fuel efficiency.

- News Canada



Lubes is a new business on Notre Dame Street in Embrun.

Bringing the city to Embrun

EMBRUN — Head to Lubes on Notre Dame Street in Embrun (across from Giant Tiger) where manager Adam Mounzer and his team can take care of any vehicle — cars, full-size trucks, vans, SUVs, and commercial vehicles.

The new business boasts that no appointment is needed and customers won't have to wait for express service oil changes. They also specialize in rust proofing and new and used tire sales and service.

Lubes is open Monday to Friday 8 am to 8 pm, and weekends 9 am to 5 pm.

New VIP member service: for $15 a year for up to two vehicles, get $3 off any oil change and $4 off rust proofing, as well as free roadside assistance. VIP members also receive a free oil change for every four oil changes, a free warranty on select vehicles, and a 15 per cent discount on tire purchases.

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What are hybrid vehicles anyway?

Hybrid vehicles are a cross between traditional fuel-powered vehicles and electric vehicles.

Combining an electric motor, a battery pack, as well as an internal combustion engine, these components work together to deliver power to a hybrids wheels. Common technologies include idle stop which allows the engine to automatically shut off and restart while the electric motor take's over to prevent unnecessary idling and regenerative braking which harnesses the energy used while braking to recharge the batteries. In many hybrids, the electric motor also provides added power during acceleration and when added performance is needed. Some hybrids can also operate using only the electric motor and battery pack at low speeds. Because the electric motor replaces some of the work done by a traditional engine and some hybrids can run as electric vehicles at low speeds, hybrids are ideal vehicles for individuals who travel predominantly in the city under stop and go conditions.



Anyone interested in reducing their fuel consumption, their emissions and impact on the environment and the price they pay at the pumps may find hybrids to be the answer. And the good news is hybrids are also making the grade with Natural Resources Canada in its annual rating of the most fuel-efficient vehicles in Canada. In fact, over the past several years, hybrids have been winning the annual EnerGuide Awards for a variety of different vehicle classes. Visit Natural Resources Canada's website at vehicles.gc.ca or call 1-800-387-2000 to learn about the EnerGuide Label for Vehicles, the Fuel Consumption Guide and for other tips and tools to encourage fuel efficiency.

- News Canada

Correct tire pressure

Be tire smart this winter

When the snow flies, Canadian drivers have to be prepared. A critical part of that is having the correct tire pressure.

Temperature swings, common across Canada during the fall and winter months, result in significant changes in tire pressure.

For every five-degree (Celsius) drop in temperature, tire pressure drops by one pound per square inch (psi). If for example, if the temperature were to drop to -15C, tires could lose three psi of tire pressure. For some tires that means a 10 per cent loss in inflation.

Maintaining proper tire inflation consumers can save money at the pumps, reduce harmful emissions, and most importantly increase the safety of their vehicles by ensuring that tires are used within the correct operating specifications and conditions for the vehicle.

As well, because properly inflated tires will last longer, you could save the cost of one or two sets of tires over the life of your vehicle.

Visit Natural Resources Canada's website at vehicles.gc.ca or call 1-800-387-2000 to learn about the



EnerGuide Label for Vehicles, the Fuel Consumption Guide and for other tips and tools to encourage fuel efficiency.

- News Canada

Autopro off road: now carrying Jianshe ATVs

by Meghan Duncan
Press staff

WINCHESTER — Winchester Autopro is going off road. The County Road 43 business is now one of only four Jianshe all-terrain vehicle dealerships in Ontario.

Phil Van Noppen, who runs Winchester Autopro with his brother Dave, told the *Press* that he has been researching ATV companies seriously for the last year or so.

"I saw a need," Van Noppen said about wanting to sell ATVs and dirt bikes at an affordable price. "I looked into this company, and started talking to other dealers who were all really impressed with the product."

Van Noppen is currently carrying a 400 cc ATV model and a 250 cc ATV model, and is expecting a second 250 model in December. He said he hopes to have dirt bikes available in the spring and more ATVs in the line up, as well.

"There are lots of companies selling (ATVs)," Van Noppen said of his choices for what brand to carry, "but none of them had a four-wheel drive model. I've used the four-wheel drive myself and I loved it."

Because Jianshe ATVs are built with a solid axle, not just rear suspension, the 400 cc model is able to carry a bigger load. Jianshes are built with oil-cooled engines, not like the air-cooled engines in other companies' machines.

Van Noppen noted that Jianshe technology may be older than some of the new products on the market, which allows for better parts support and warranties. Other companies only offer a standard 30-day warranty, and Van Noppen said it was important to him to be able to provide a quality product that could be serviced and offer customers more security, including a six-month warranty.

He said he can get any parts or accessories a customer wants. One of the 400 cc Mountain Lion models he has on-site is decked out with a winch, skid plates, and upgraded tires.



Phil Van Noppen poses on a 250cc Jianshe ATV model now available through Winchester Autopro.

Press Photo — Duncan

He also can get snowplows, seats, or mirrors, among other items.

Price point was a big factor when Van Noppen decided to sell Jianshe products, he explained, noting that with a lower overall price, accessories are more affordable.

"There are a lot of people who want an ATV but can't afford the $8,000 price tag," he said. "When you buy Jianshe, you're basically saving $3,000 compared with the big boys, but that doesn't mean the product is lower quality."

He explained that a lot of all terrain vehicles are manufactured in China, where there is little or no quality control. Yamaha, a Japanese company, has a 30 per cent share in Jianshe, and Van Noppen said that's better than just a verbal endorsement — one of the most well-known manufacturers in the world gives their financial and business backing to Jianshe.

He also noted that a dealer in Kapuskasing, Ont. not only sells Jianshe, but also rents the machines out.

"That's a good sign," he said, noting that drivers tend to be really hard on rented ATVs.

"I just like the product," Van Noppencontinued. And he should know. He's been ATVing for the last 16 years, on and off. "I've got a passion for that kind of thing. I like the

• continued on next page

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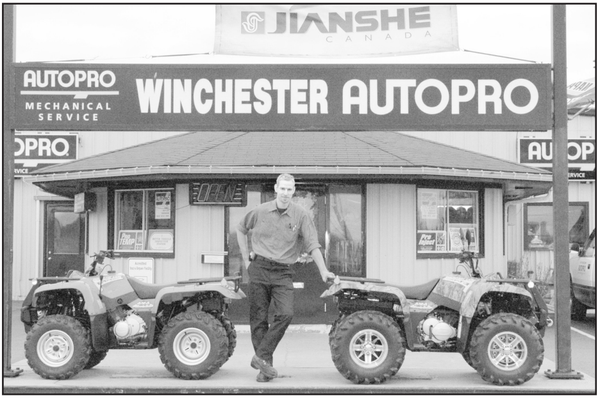


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Phil Van Noppen of Winchester Autopro stands beside the products he stands behind — a line of Jianshe ATVs available at the company's County Road 43 location. *Press Photo — Duncan*

ATVs

• continued from previous page

excitement of riding down a trail, of what you can see, of where you can go. It's great fun to play — to get together with the guys, but you can also use the ATVs for work, as well. Really, what more could you ask for? It's practical and fun."

Autopro is open Monday to Friday from 7 am to 6 pm, but Van Noppen said that anyone wanting to check out the ATVs can make an appointment for a Saturday to talk with him and try one out. Customers can purchase demo-models from the dealership, or they can order a machine and expect to receive it within 10 days from a distributor in Edmonton.

Van Noppen said he wanted to make sure his customers know that ATVs are just a sideline for the business.

"Our main focus here at the shop is still cars — that's what we do," he said. "Winchester Autopro isn't changing, we're still fixing cars, we're just selling ATVs, too."

Though the Jianshe company has been around since 1989, it only entered the Canadian market nine months ago. When Van Noppen first started selling them in September, there were only 26 dealers across the country — now there are 40.

"Once the name gets out there ... I think it's going to be a name that's as good as the big boys," he said, referring to the more well-known ATV manufacturers. "All in all, it's a good product for a good price. I wanted a product I could stand behind, and this is it."

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Every vehicle needs a winter emergency kit

As temperatures plunge from cold to freezing, winter preparedness becomes all the more important. Long after winter's sweaters have been pulled from their summer hibernation, people remain woefully unprepared for vehicle emergencies.

While most people have jumper cables and maybe a blanket in their car, those that have had the misfortune of breaking down or spinning off the road on a frigid winter day know they should have thought ahead a bit more.



Prestone, having over 75 years of experience in helping people and their vehicles make it safely through winter, have identified a list of essentials that will help people through a roadside winter emergency.

These items include:

• A small, lightweight shovel

• Traction aid, such as a bag of sand or kitty litter

• A combination ice scraper and snow brush

• A winter formula windshield washer fluid or additive (Prestone De-Icer Concentrate can be added to the windshield washer fluid reservoir to boost ice removal.)

• Antifreeze (Prestone LongLife Premixed Antifreeze/Coolant in the "All Makes, All Models" formula is designed specifically for topping up, taking the guesswork out of filling up on the go.)

• A well-charged cell phone

• Extra hats, boots and gloves

• Blankets and/or sleeping bags

• Non-perishable, high-energy food items, such as energy bars or peanuts.

More tips on preparing your vehicle for winter, and easy installation videos are available online at www.Prestone.com.

- News Canada



Four-door fun

The newest version of the famous Jeep Wrangler was unveiled at W.J.L. Boyd and Sons Ltd. Chrysler Jeep Dodge in mid-October. The first-ever four-door Jeep Wrangler Unlimited was on display in front of the St. Lawrence Street business during Chrysler's Motopalooza promotion. The 2007 Rubicon features seating for five passengers and 2,325 litres of cargo storage space with the second-row seats folded flat. The wheelbase is 330 mm (13 inches) longer than the two-door model, which provides a smooth on-road ride in the off-road vehicle. *Press Photo — Rushford*

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Fall 'To Do' List

• Winterize vehicle • Change tires to winter tires • Check battery and charging system • Tune-up and oil change

• UNDERCOAT YOUR VEHICLE

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Kilometres Driven		Maintenance List
New - 70,000 km	To Do:	• Oil changes every 5,000 km • Maintenance tune-up • Rotate tires
70,000-100,000 km	Watch:	• Brakes - front & rear - depends on driver • Tires - front & rear • Exhaust / belts • Change transmission fluid & radiator flush
100,000 km-150,000 km	Important!! To Do: To Do: Watch:	• Timing belt - if you miss it you may bend valves • Maintenance tune-up complete • Fuel injection pressure cleaning • Front-end parts - tie-end rods & ball joints • CV boots on front drive shaft • Struts & shocks may be worn
150,000 km-200,000 km	To Do: Watch:	• Flush radiator/change transmission fluid • Flush brake fluid • Brakes • Battery / alternator / starter system • Coil springs - keep ride height (saves tires & suspension)
200,000 km-250,000 km	To Do: Watch:	• Change timing belt • Any oil leaks? • CV boots - constant velocity boots (Cheaper to replace $20 boot than $300 shaft) • Tire wear
250,000 km-300,000 km	To Do: Watch:	• Maintenance tune-up • Clean injectors • Shocks & struts • Brakes
300,000 km-350,000 km		See list at 100,000 km

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Five high-tech bells and whistles that will save you money at the pump

Technology is making it so easy to do just about everything nowadays, including the way we drive and how fuel-efficient our vehicles are. Consider going high tech if you want to lower your consumption, reduce your greenhouse gas emissions and save fuel. Look for these high tech bells and whistles when you go to buy a new or used vehicle:

• **Variable valve timing and lift:** improves the flow of fuel and air during the engine cycle by varying the opening and closing of the engine valves depending on need. The technology can result in both greater power and better fuel efficiency.

• **Cylinder deactivation** allows V-6 and V-8 engines to operate as though they had fewer cylinders. While cylinder deactivation cannot decrease the weight of engines, it does reduce fuel consumption under light-load cruising conditions by only delivering fuel to activated cylinders.

• **Gasoline and Diesel** direct injection uses sophisticated electronic fuel-flow and air-flow controls, and precision injectors which inject the fuel directly into the cylinder and optimize the ideal mixture of air and fuel during combustion.

• **Continuously Variable Transmission:** Or CVT's don't have a gearbox with a set number of gears, instead they typically operate on a pulley configuration that allows an infinite number of engine/wheel speed ratios. This technology results in better engine speed matching, ideal "gear" selection and improved fuel efficiency.

• **Hybrid Technology:** by combining an internal combustion engine with an electrical motor and battery pack, most hybrids today can achieve improvements in fuel efficiency by using the electric motor to supplement engine power. Some hybrids can also operate exclusively using the electric motor at low speeds. Batteries do not require plugging in and are recharged by harnessing the energy from braking and from the engine. Hybrids are ideal vehicles for individuals who travel predominantly in the city under stop and go conditions. Consumers can use this information to help them buy, drive and maintain their vehicles in ways that will conserve energy, preserve the environment, protect their health and save money. Visit Natural Resources Canada's website at vehicles.gc.ca or call 1-800-387-2000 to learn about the EnerGuide Label for Vehicles, the Fuel Consumption Guide and for other tips and tools to encourage fuel efficiency.

- News Canada



High Caliber

The 2007 Dodge Caliber, featuring seating for five and 60/40-split rear seat-backs, sports a fuel consumption rating of 9.0L/100km (31 mpg) in the city and 7.3L/100km (39 mpg) highway. The SXT model sports a 158-horsepower, 2.0 litre, four-cylinder engine. The Caliber was introduced at Boyd Chrysler Jeep Dodge's Motopalooza event in mid-October. Press Photo — Rushford

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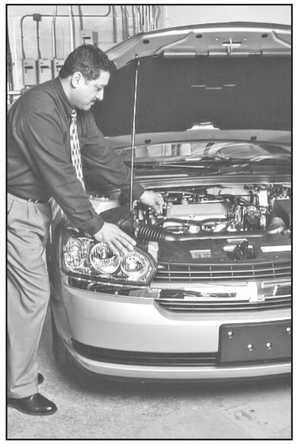
How to get the advertised fuel ratings for your car

The amount of fuel your vehicle consumes can vary considerably from its published ratings. If you drive with fuel efficiency in mind, you can achieve those numbers, or even exceed them.

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• Consult your owner's manual for driving and maintenance advice for optimum performance and efficiency
• Follow the manufacturer's suggested maintenance schedule
• Check fluid levels at least once a month
• Measure your tire pressure at least once a month
• Avoid speeding
• Use cruise control
• Use your air conditioning sparingly
• Remove unnecessary weight
• Take off the roof rack
• Leave the car at home or park partway to your destination

These are just some of the tools consumers can use to help drive and maintain their vehicles in ways that will conserve energy, preserve the environment, protect their health and save money.



Visit Natural Resources Canada's website at vehicles.gc.ca or call 1-800-387-2000 to learn about the EnerGuide Label for Vehicles, the Fuel Consumption Guide and for other tips and tools to encourage fuel efficiency.

- News Canada

Canadians idle and it's hurting our wallet, our health and the environment

Idling your car, or letting it run needlessly, is a waste of fuel, money and it's damaging the environment, too. Natural Resources Canada provides some pretty convincing data at vehicles.gc.ca.

For example, did you know Canadian drivers could save approximately $85 a year just by turning off their vehicles instead of idling? Each Canadian driver idles approximately 10 minutes per day, using up almost 90 litres of gas a year, which at one dollar a litre or more adds up. The cost goes up even further in winter when Canadians idle more than 75 million minutes a day. That's the same as idling one vehicle for 144 years.



And what about the old story that idling uses less fuel than starting and stopping your engine? Not true says Natural Resources Canada. Idling for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel than restarting your engine. In fact, if every Canadian motorist stopped idling for just five minutes a day, every day of the year, we could avoid sending 1.6 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions into the air, and save over $640 million dollars per year in fuel. That's the equivalent of taking over 490,000 cars off the road for one year!

Consumers can use this information to help them buy, drive and maintain their vehicles in ways that will conserve energy, preserve the environment, protect their health and save money. Visit Natural Resources Canada's website at vehicles.gc.ca or call 1-800-387-2000 to learn about the EnerGuide Label for Vehicles, the Fuel Consumption Guide and for other tips and tools to encourage fuel efficiency.

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New features abound on Chevrolet's 2007 Avalanche

by Bonnie James
Press staff

CASSELMAN — The 2007 model of the Chevy Avalanche has been completely redesigned and has a wide range of new optional features. When asked by Laplante Chevrolet Pontiac Buick GMC Ltd. in Casselman if I wanted to take this new truck for a test-drive, I jumped at the chance.

"The hook is looks," said Genevieve Laplante, dealership manager, about what attracts people to the Avalanche. She went on to explain that while the look of the vehicle may bring people through the door, once they have a closer look at the Avalanche they are more impressed with its utility capabilities and versatility.

"It appeals to people who want the utility of a truck but want the look of an SUV," said Laplante. "It's the perfect combination of truck and SUV."

The truck I test drove was a sport red metallic Avalanche 1500 4x4, with a Vortec 5300 Flex Fuel V8 engine. The option package included a manufacturer installed remote starter, auto climate control, a power sliding glass sunroof, XM Satellite radio, Bose premium six-speaker sound system, an in-dash six-disc CD changer, Utrasonic rear parking assist, and roof rack side rails, among others. It retails for just over $53,000.

One of the most impressive new features for the 2007 model is the flex fuel engine, which allows drivers to use fuel that is up to 85 per cent ethanol. It's perfect for those who are concerned about the environmental impact of driving a large vehicle. Also a plus for those who are concerned with conserving fuel is the vehicle's standard active fuel management system. The 320 horsepower Vortec 5.3-litre V8 engine operates on four or eight cylinders, depending on the power demanded.

I took this truck onto the 417 east of Casselman, with sales consultant Lucien Ranger in the passenger seat, to see this feature in action. The switch from eight to four cylinders is subtle, in fact you wouldn't even notice unless you have your eyes glued to the RPM indicator or the digital display, which I did. "Aha! Now I'm saving money on gas!" I said.

"A lot of people are surprised by the smoothness of the ride," said Ranger. "It's smoother than a lot of cars I've driven in."

And he's right. I'd have to use cruise control, or I'd be lead-footing it all over the place. It rides with the smoothness and quietness of a car or SUV.

"If you're someone who likes to accelerate — it's got guts," Ranger subtly suggested. So we flew past a couple of transports, just to check it out.

He was right again, lots of oomph.

Another new feature for the 2007 model is an oil life monitor, said Laplante, explaining that it notifies the driver when the oil needs to be changed. The average for a change is every 10,000 to 11,000 kilometres, as opposed to every 5,000 kilometres for some vehicles.

"You're cutting the cost of oil changes in half," she said.

The versatility of the Avalanche is really impressive. It has a high comfort level as a passenger vehicle that can accommodate up to six. There's lots of room in the back seat for long legs, and installing car seats. The 2007 model also has additional head room in both the front and back seats.

The back seats (in a 60-40 split) easily flip down to accommodate bulky packages or a pet carrier. And once the back window is removed and the midgate is lowered, the back seat area becomes part of the rear box providing eight feet, two inches of cargo space. The conversion is quick and easy.

The Avalanche has nice attention to detail as well. The designers considered all a user's needs by including elements such as grab handles, a heavy non-slip rubber mat in the bottom of the cargo box, and lockable storage compartments on both sides of the cargo box.



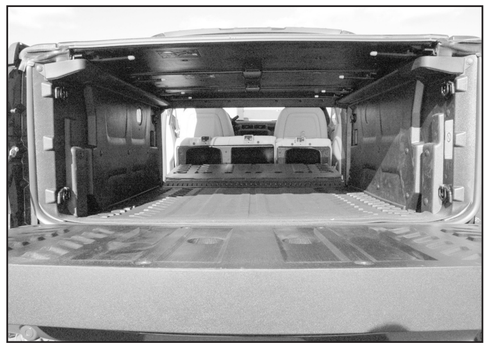
Also a nice feature for 2007 is that the tailgate locks and unlocks with the standard remote keyless entry system.

Ranger emphasized the Avalanche's safety features. The power rack-and-pinion steering system has been re-engineered to deliver a more precise response to driver input. Also a key safety feature is the Stabilitrack vehicle stability control system, which intervenes to adjust brake pressure and engine power if it detects a lateral skid. And finally, GM's OnStar program is a plus for both safety and driver information.

"It's an incredible system," said Ranger, demonstrating the GPS satellite navigation. In the event that the airbags deploy, an OnStar operator automatically contacts you to see if you need assistance. OnStar is also equipped with a hands-free, voice-activated phone so that you can make calls while keeping your hands on the wheel.

I also took the opportunity to listen to the excellent sound system — crisp and clear. An MP3-capable CD player comes standard, with options for an in-dash six-disc CD changer or XM Satellite radio.





At left: *The Avalanche comes trailer-ready right off the lot with a hitch and seven-wire harness.*

The Avalanche is easily converted from an SUV capable of carrying six passengers into a truck with a full-sized box. With the midgate down, the truck has eight feet, two inches of cargo space.

Press Photos — James

I tested the Ultrasonic rear parking assist feature, which is easy to use. I backed up toward the corner of a building and the system alerted me with beeps and lights at three different distance intervals. If you are really concerned about what's behind you, you can get the optional rearview camera system.

The 2007 Avalanche has an upgraded warranty. The drivetrain warranty has been increased from three years or 60,000 kilometres to five years or 160,000 kilometres. The roadside assistance warranty has increased the same amount.

"It's what we call a big deal," said Ranger, explaining that with the roadside assistance warranty, drivers get free towing, digital maps, unlocking service if they lock their keys inside, free gas (10 litres) delivered if they run out, accommodation and vehicle rental cash if needed, and a free loaner vehicle if the truck needs more than two hours of warranty-related service.

The 2007 Avalanche is a nice ride and a versatile multi-purpose vehicle. It would have taken a full day's driving to fully test and appreciate all the details, but the couple of hours I spent with it were enough to impress me.

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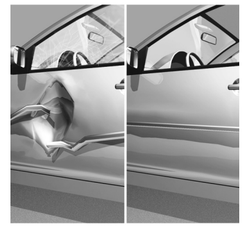
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