WHEREAS, neglected vehicle maintenance leads to more than 2,600 deaths, nearly 100,000 disabling injuries, and more than $2 billion in lost wages, medical expenses, and property damage; and

WHEREAS, approximately 70 percent of the vehicles on the road today are in need of some type of preventive maintenance; and

WHEREAS, through proper care, a 10 year old car can produce less pollution than a poorly maintained 5 year old vehicle; and

WHEREAS, appropriate maintenance of key safety systems such as brakes, air bags, and lights helps reduce accidents and the accompanying injuries and fatalities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2005 as CAR CARE MONTH throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to recognize the importance of proper vehicle maintenance to ensuring that vehicles are operating in a safe, efficient, and clean manner.