

Wheels: In an e-mail, John writes, “My Olds has 60,000 miles on it. I had the radiator power flushed at 54,000 and again at 60,000. The repair shop advised me that this might need to be done every 6 months. The cost was \$59.00 to power flush and the second one was done for free. The antifreeze appears to still be on the dirty side. I also replaced the thermostat in the vehicle. How can this problem be resolved without doing this process every 6 months?”

Halderman: The dirty brown color you are seeing is rust from the engine and this means that the coolant level is low, allowing air to enter the cooling system. One of the service bulletins from General Motors Corp. says to check that the radiator cap tightly seals. Often, the mating surface in the filler neck of the radiator needs to be resurfaced to permit the radiator cap to seal correctly. Once the system is sealed, the rust should not occur.

