

News Release

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For Immediate Release

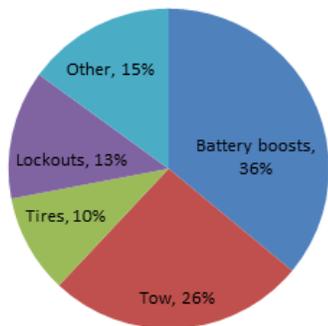
CAA Manitoba expecting close to 4,700 calls for roadside assistance during holidays

Many problems avoidable with proper vehicle maintenance

CAA Manitoba anticipates it will come to the aid of more than 4,700 motorists between December 23, 2013 and January 3, 2014, who are stranded, stuck, stalled or locked-out of their vehicles.

“Being stranded on the side of the road can quickly dampen your holiday spirit,” says Liz Peters, Corporate Manager of Communications for CAA Manitoba. “A lot of problems can be avoided with regular vehicle maintenance before heading out for a road trip and by plugging it in when your car won’t be used for a few days.”

On average, CAA is able to fix more than 70 per cent of all problems on the side of the road, which saves a trip to the garage during an already busy time of year. “Despite an impressive ‘on-the-go’ rate, we still expect to tow more than 1,200 vehicles during the holiday season.”



Of all service calls, CAA expects:

- About 1,700 calls for battery boosts and replacements. This is by far the most requested services during the holiday season.
- About 600 calls for lockouts. During cold winter months, motorists often leave their running car unattended to keep it warm
- About 475 calls for flat tires, vehicle extractions and fuel delivery

“A blast of snow and cold weather early in December reminded us it’s never too early to winterize your vehicle,” Peters says, noting during the first cold snap of the winter from December 5 – 16, CAA Manitoba served close to 10,000 Manitobans. “Get your battery tested, a synthetic oil change, check your belts, tire pressure and check your block heater cord for fraying or damage.” She also reminds motorists to never travel without a stocked emergency kit.

CAA Manitoba says that sometimes, no matter how hard you try, things still happen. If you need roadside assistance during the holiday season, you can put in a request online through www.caamanitoba.com, through the CAA mobile app, or by phone at 1-800-222-4357.

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