

SEVEN DEGREES TO WINTER PREPARATION

Rain, snow, sleet or hail – make sure your vehicle is prepared for safe travel

Winnipeg, November 17, 2016 – As the mercury has dropped below seven degrees Celsius or less consistently, it's time to start thinking about installing winter tires and winterizing your vehicle.

“Rain and predicted flurries these days are reminders that cold weather is coming to stay, and soon,” says Erika Miller, Public and Media Relations Specialist for CAA Manitoba. “One of the most important tools for winter driving are winter tires.”

Roads can get slippery even without snow, and winter tires start to improve stability and control around 7 Celsius. [MPI's low-interest loan program](#) helps motorists purchase these important pieces of safety equipment.

Simple tips for winterization:

1. Check your oil & block heater

Consider getting a synthetic oil change to help keep your car running smoothly in subzero temperatures. Arrange to have your block heater tested and vehicle inspected at an [Approved Auto Repair Service](#) garage near you.

2. Have your battery tested

A car battery lasts between three and five years on average, and often dies without much warning. CAA Manitoba offers free on-the-spot [battery testing, delivery and installation](#) to help members avoid the inconvenience of a dead battery before it happens.

3. Pack a roadside [emergency kit](#)

Take the Boy Scout motto to heart and “Be prepared” with a bag of important items: tools, weatherproof emergency flares, blankets and more. Prepackaged emergency kits are available at any [CAA branch](#).

Even with winter tires and an experienced driver behind the wheel, CAA Manitoba reminds motorists to slow down and drive to conditions, keeping a safe stopping distance between cars.

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For more information please contact:

Erika Miller, Public and Media Relations Specialist

P 204 262.6134 • C 204 797.4326

E erikam@caamanitoba.com

