

Winter is Coming...

Another fall is upon us and soon the snow will fall and we will be moving into the heart of “accident” season. It never ceases to amaze the experts how many people forget best driving practices in only a six month time period, from spring until fall and early winter! Some people don’t put on their winter tires early enough for fear of “using up tread on pavement” (an absolute fallacy, by the way!), while others forget to put their snow brush in their vehicle and others believe that driving a four-by-four is a license to drive like they were in a Baja off-road race of some sort.

Let’s remember that winter driving means that we need to take a bit of extra time, plan ahead, and use a bit more caution in all we do when we get behind the wheel. Give your vehicle a few minutes to warm up the oil and fluids a bit before dashing off and save time. Otherwise, not only might you prematurely wear out your drivetrain, but have visibility issues when the glass starts to fog up and then you have an accident or someone is hurt. Brush off all the snow and scrape frost from all the windows before pulling out into traffic – your door mirrors aren’t enough to see everything from all angles.

And for safety’s sake, don’t think that your all wheel drive is the same thing as driving a tank. While it may help you plow through and over deeper snow and may help you move with a bit more control, stopping time is virtually the same with all vehicles. If traffic ahead of you requires you to stop, you may not give yourself enough time because you believed that you were impervious to road conditions. The last thing that anyone wants to have to deal with is an accident, damage to your vehicle, damage to another’s vehicle, and most importantly injuries or worse, especially around the holiday season.

All the best!

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