

Car Care Corner

Fresh Wiper Blades Can Make For Safer Driving

(NAPSA)—Thanks to Groundhog Day, a growing number of drivers are seeing a way to increase their driving safety. They're using the holiday as a reminder to change their car's wiper blades.

A recent survey found that one out of every three drivers on the road today fail to change their blades according to the National Safety Council's recommended frequency of once a year. In fact, 78 percent of motorists only change their wiper blades after the blades themselves begin to impair their visibility and have become a safety hazard.

In an effort to alert drivers to the importance of proper driving visibility, the National Safety Council and Rain-X are once again teaming up this Groundhog Day for the 2nd Annual Seemore Safety Campaign.

On February 2nd, the iconic symbol of the campaign—Seemore the Safety Groundhog—will emerge from his den to spread his message of safety and remind motorists to change their wiper blades annually.

According to John Ulczycki, the National Safety Council's Director of Transportation Safety, "During the winter months, when inclement weather is more prevalent, it is vital that motorists take every precaution possible to properly prepare themselves for adverse weather conditions."

The survey, commissioned by Rain-X and conducted by Directive Analytics, also revealed that more than 70 percent of drivers check their local weather once a day and almost one-third of the participants consider themselves to be "weather obsessed," admittedly checking the forecast multiple times each day.

"Unfortunately, most drivers



Once again this year, Seemore the Safety Groundhog is reminding drivers to change their car's wiper blades annually.

tend to consider their wiper blades a service replacement item, when in reality they are a vital component of a car's safety features," said Chris Hayek, Group Manager, Rain-X. "In most cases, wiper blades are not difficult to replace, and for those not certain, major auto retailers offer free blade installation. We hope that the second year of the Seemore Safety campaign will remind drivers to replace their wipers at least once a year as part of their overall safe driving habits."

In addition, most survey respondents predict that the groundhog will see his shadow this year, providing us with an additional six weeks of winter weather. Almost a quarter of the drivers surveyed actually believe the groundhog's prediction is more reliable than that of their local weatherman.

For additional information, visit the National Safety Council at www.nsc.org and Rain-X at www.rainx.com.