

Be Car Care Aware™

Is Your Vehicle Ready For Rough Weather?

(NAPSA)—Whether it's a car, light truck, SUV or minivan, now is the time to prepare your vehicle for winter weather.

“Motorists need to be proactive and take control of their vehicle's condition,” said Rich White, executive director of the Car Care Council. “That means making sure your car is mechanically sound before the temperature dips and the streets get icy.”

The Council recommends the following tasks:

- Check the coolant (anti-freeze) every year; coolant should be flushed and refilled at least every two years in most vehicles.

- Check your oil. Change every 3,000 miles.

- Check the battery and exhaust system.

- Be certain the heater and defroster are working properly.

- Keep the gas tank at least half full, decreasing the chances of moisture forming in the gas lines and possibly freezing.

- Check tire tread depth and tire pressure.

- Check to see that lights work and headlights are properly aimed.

- Replace wiper blades every



Safety is no accident. Prepare your car now to weather whatever the weather throws at you.

six months; consider special snow blades if the weather dictates.

- Be prepared for an emergency.

Keep in your trunk: an ice scraper, windshield de-icer, flashlight, whisk broom, blanket, extra clothes, candle/matches, bottled water, snacks, necessary medications and a first-aid kit.

The Car Care Council is the source of information for the “Be Car Care Aware” campaign, educating consumers about the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair.

A free service interval vehicle schedule is available at the Car Care Council's Web site, www.car-care.org.