

Safe Travel Tips

Before you pack up the car, keep these safety tips in mind.

- Have your car safety inspected by checking brakes, tires, antifreeze, wiper fluid, gasoline, lights, battery, and wipers. Have extra fluids for all needs of the car, including water for overheated engines.
- Carry basic tools such as jumper cables, wrenches, gloves, ratchet/socket set, screwdrivers, pliers or Vise-Grips, car chains and flares. Don't forget the duct tape.
- Ensure you have emergency supplies (food, water) for each person and pet. Add extra gallons of water in case of a break down. Don't forget blankets: it can get cold.
- Include in your first aid kit (preferably in water-tight zip-lock bags): an extra supply of your medicines; a list of your current medications (prescribed and over-the-counter); important medical information; copies of photo identification; and a spare pair of prescription glasses.
- Share arrival, departure and destination information with someone so that people know where and when you are expected. Get all addresses, phone numbers, driving instructions to where you will be going before leaving!
- Be well rested before leaving. Avoid fatigue, switch drivers, or take a break every couple of hours.
- Drink plenty of water....refill at every chance.
- Be courteous, use your signals, and let faster drivers pass.
- Don't tailgate, maintain a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you. Be patient with trucks, RV's and trailers.
- Never drink and drive!
- List emergency contacts under "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) in your cell phone: so First Responders have an easy way to make contact with the right people. Check out the following for purchasing emergency supplies: Nitro-Pak.com, beprepared.com, ready.gov, American Red Cross. Check your phone book for stores in your area.