



## Preparing for Winter Weather Travel

Has your car, van, or pickup truck had a vehicle checkup lately? Now is the time to make sure your automobile can survive the coming winter weather.

Check the tires, battery and brakes, along with the heating and defrosting system. Change the antifreeze, if needed, to protect the engine and radiator from freezing up in the cold temperatures that will be with us this winter.

When a snow storm or ice storm is expected to affect any part of your travel route, here is an important question to ask yourself: Is the need to make the trip a matter of life or death?

If the answer is no, then don't go. Keep in mind that the weather may be okay in your town, but hazardous winter driving conditions could exist only a few miles away.

Remember, a blizzard or dangerous ice storm can cause the trip itself to become a life threatening situation. Nearly 60 people die in the United States each year, hundreds more are injured, and tens of thousands are stranded on the side of the road due to winter storms and bitterly cold temperatures.