Car Winterization Tips  November 3rd, 2020

The days and nights are getting colder which means it’s time to start thinking about winter! Winterizing your car is important for your safety and others as well as helping prolong the life of your car.

- Check and replace windshield wipers if needed. Refill washer fluid. Good visibility is crucial for safe winter driving.

- Check tires for wear and add air to the tires if needed. The correct tire pressure can be found inside the driver door. Replace tires that are too worn before the bad weather hits.

  *Tip for checking tire thread according to Kelly Blue Book*

  To determine whether there is enough tread on your tires, take a penny and insert it into one of the grooves between the treads. Lincoln’s head needs to be facing you and his head should be upside down. Do this in 10-15 areas of the tire. If you see all of Lincoln’s head, the tread depth is less than 2/32 of an inch, meaning the tire is dangerous, must be replaced and is illegal to use. If a portion of Lincoln’s head is not visible, your tire is ok.

- Have the battery checked. The cold weather makes it more difficult to get the engine started.

- Change the oil if you haven’t in a while. Cold weather causes the oil to thicken which will make the engine and battery work harder. Rule of thumb is to use thinner oil in the cold months and thicker oil in the warm months.

- Clean foggy head lights to ensure visibility and have an extra jacket and gloves stowed away for emergencies.

- Have exhaust system inspected for leaks to prevent carbon monoxide for seeping into the passenger compartment

Sources for other good winter driving tips:

  Kelly Blue Book
  Nationwide
  Do I Need Winter Tires?

Happy Winter Driving!