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At Your Service!

PREMIUM TIRES
& QUALITY AUTO CARE



FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER

Another incredible summer in Southern Georgian Bay has come and gone. As we enjoy the invigorating days of fall, it's time to start thinking about the inevitable cold weather season. The Farmer's Almanac predicts that winter will be "very wet, stormy, cold" in our part of Canada. Whether you believe this or not, it's probably a good idea to get your vehicle ready for what's ahead.

In this issue, we talk about the difference between "all season" and winter tires, vehicle (and personal) safety in the winter, and feature an attractive winter tire offer from Toyo Tires. And, in the spirit of fall, we have an excellent apple fritter recipe for you to try.

Winter Tires or All Seasons?

Remember the extreme weather we experienced last winter? Sure, we may have all-wheel or 4-wheel drive and traction control, but "all-season" tires just don't offer the safety and security of winter tires in our "snow belt" part of the world.

Consider this: the "contact patch" surface area that connects your vehicle with the road at any time is only about the size of your hand. That's why it's important to maximize traction in this small area as much as possible in order to get the most from our tires.

"All season" or summer tires become much less effective once the temperature falls below 7°C. Why? Because the rubber compound is stiffer and harder than winter tires, meaning that in sub-zero temperatures, they can freeze as hard as ice. Braking and handling become more challenging in cold weather – in fact, your braking distance can decrease by 40%-60% with winter tires.

Winter tires are made with a softer and more flexible rubber compound, combined with an aggressive tread pattern for superior grip and traction on snow and ice, as well as safe handling on wet and dry pavement. Considering that the average temperature from November through April in our region is below 7°C, investing in a set of winter tires is a good idea.

TOYO TIRES



Real Rewards.



**Save up to \$80
on select sets of 4**

A REWARDING WINTER TIRE OFFER

OK Tire Thornbury is proud to carry a complete selection of quality Toyo Tires. "Engineered for the real world" including our extreme winters, Toyo offers high performance tires at a lower than high performance price.

Get your vehicle ready for the ice and snow with a new set of Toyo winter tires. Until December 17, you can save up to \$80 on select sets of four. Call us for details today.



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Winter Safety on the Road

October is Car Safety Month, a good time to make sure your vehicle's winter essentials are in good working order, and to have it checked for potential problems that could leave you stranded in the cold. We recommend the following preventative measures:

- 1. Battery:** In cold weather, your battery may produce only 40% of its peak power at a time when your cold engine needs a maximum jolt to get it started. Have OK Tire inspect your battery and ignition wires for corrosion, cracks and wear. Consider a block heater. Timed to warm your engine before you drive, it will make starting much easier.
- 2. Coolant (Antifreeze):** Have your coolant system inspected. Engine coolant, which either cools or warms your engine, needs to be flushed and re-filled every two years. It should be mixed in the right proportion with water to keep from freezing, lubricate the water pump and prevent corrosion.
- 3. Belts & Hoses:** Have them inspected for cracks and wear.
- 4. Heater/Defroster:** If your coolant is low, your heating will not work efficiently. If you hear a chirping or screeching sound from the heater fan, or there is a lot of moisture in your car, you could have a problem that requires immediate service. And remember to have your cabin filter inspected and replaced if necessary. In addition to cleaning the air, a cabin micron filter also keeps your defrost system working properly.
- 5. Windshield Washer:** It's probably happened to most of us – driving on a busy highway in slushy conditions when the windshield washer runs out. Melting snow and road grime are a constant threat to road visibility in the winter. Check your washer fluid regularly and keep it topped up.
- 6. Wiper Blades:** Speaking of visibility, you should have your windshield wiper blades replaced every 6 months.
- 7. The Safety Triangle - Brakes, Tires, Shocks:** There are three parts to your vehicle - brakes, tires and shock absorbers – that work together to ensure maximum safety on the road. Defective brakes are the leading vehicle defect reported in highway accidents. Low tire pressure can increase braking distance, and worn tires reduce traction – especially in winter. Tires can also show early signs of problems like misalignment or suspension problems. Even one worn shock can compromise vehicle safety by increasing braking distances and reducing control of your vehicle. For your peace of mind, have OK Tire inspect these Safety Triangle components regularly.
- 8. Gas Tank:** Keep your tank at least half full in the winter. This simple tip will help prevent condensation in the tank and reduce gas line freezing.
- 9. Emergency Kit:** Some items to consider keeping in your vehicle over the winter: ice scraper/brush, booster cables, extra windshield washer, compact shovel, flashlight, road flares, blanket, extra clothes, candle and matches, bottled water, snacks, medications and, always, a mobile phone.

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Fritter Away!

APPLE FRITTERS

It's apple season again, and local apple farmers are pleased to report abundant and delicious crops! Treat yourself and your loved ones to this scrumptious apple treat.

Batter:

1. Mix together in a bowl: 1 cup all purpose flour, 2 tbsp sugar, 1 1/2 tsp baking powder, 1/4 tsp salt
2. In another bowl, whisk together: 2/3 cup milk, 1 egg yolk, 1 tbsp melted butter
3. Stir wet ingredients into the bowl of dry ingredients

Apples:

1. Pour juice of 1 lemon into shallow baking dish.
2. Peel, core and cut 4 large apples into 1/4 inch slices.
3. Toss apples with lemon juice.

Frying:

1. In a deep fryer or heavy duty pot, heat 3 inches of vegetable oil to 375°F.
2. In a bowl, beat 2 large egg whites, until stiff peaks form and fold into batter.
3. Working with a few apple slices at a time, shake off lemon juice and dip apples in batter, letting excess drip off.
4. Drop slices into hot oil and fry, turning once, until golden brown and puffed.
5. Drain on paper towels and keep warm in 250°F oven until all slices are done.
6. Serve fritters sprinkled with powdered sugar or maple syrup.