

Media release 20 June 2023

RACT urges motorists to brace for cold weather

As winter conditions settle in across Tasmania, RACT is amplifying its call for motorists to take action and ensure their vehicles are ready for the cold weather.

With RACT roadside patrols frequently encountering the results of poor vehicle maintenance, RACT is urging Tasmanians to undertake comprehensive checks of their vehicles ahead of more inclement weather.

"From first-hand experience, our RACT roadside patrols can attest that poor tyre condition, low tread depth and incorrect pressures can lead to dangerous situations in wet or icy conditions," RACT's Chief Advocacy Officer Garry Bailey said.

"Low tyre tread can cause aquaplaning on wet roads, resulting in total loss of vehicle control when travelling at speed."

"To prevent such risks, we urge motorists to inspect their tyres thoroughly. Turn your wheels to full lock to check the inside edges, ensuring the tyre tread depth is at least 1.5 millimetres across the entire surface."

And with the cooler months causing potential issues with car batteries, the RACT is encouraging motorists to get their batteries tested before venturing too far.

"Vehicle failure due to a faulty battery can be a particularly unwelcome event during the cold of winter. We recommend you get your battery tested before the winter weather intensifies, so you don't find yourself stranded unexpectedly."

"Visibility is another crucial factor in safe winter driving," Mr Bailey added. "Ensure your windscreen wipers are functioning well, your windscreen is clear of any defects, and your lights are fully operational, including ensuring high and low beams are adjusted. These elements can significantly affect your ability to navigate roads safely in winter conditions."

"Ultimately, if you haven't had your vehicle serviced in the past 12 months, now is the time. A thorough inspection by a competent mechanic is the best way to ensure your car is in good condition and ready for winter travelling," Mr Bailey said.

As winter conditions continue to set in, RACT urges all Tasmanian motorists to heed these reminders and keep road safety top of mind.

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