



President's Message

Americans Growing Less Concerned about Dangerous Driving Behaviors



Thomas Dunlap

Americans are less likely to perceive a serious threat from dangerous driving behaviors such as drunk, aggressive or drowsy driving, according to an analysis of four years of public surveys conducted by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. The decreased concern is accompanied by an estimated 5.3 percent increase in annual traffic fatalities, totaling more than 34.000 in 2012. This is the first annual increase in seven years, according to the

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"Motorists may be growing more complacent about potential safety risks behind the wheel," said Peter Kissinger, President and CEO of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. "A 'do as I sav. not as I do' attitude remains common with many motorists admitting consistently engaging in the same dangerous behaviors for which they would condemn other drivers."

Survey results during previous four years show decreasing concern for dangerous driving behaviors: The number of people who believe driving after drinking is a serious threat declined from a near universal 90 percent in 2009 to 69 percent in 2012.

The number of people who consider drowsy driving a very serious threat declined from 71 percent in 2009 to 46 percent in

The number of people who believe that texting or emailing while driving is a very serious threat declined from 87 percent in 2009 to 81 percent in 2012. The number of people who admit to texting while driving increased from 21 percent to 26 percent during the same period.

The number of people who consider red-light running to be completely unacceptable declined from 77 percent in 2009 to 70 percent in 2012. More than one-third (38 percent) admitted to running a red light within the previous month.

"We have made great strides in recent years to reduce road deaths, but there are still too many needless fatalities caused by dangerous driving," said Jake Nelson, AAA director of traffic safety advocacy and research. "It is clear that more must be

done to address the dangers of drunk, aggressive and drowsy driving to stem this concerning

Someone dies on America's roadways every 15 minutes. **Fatalities** include passengers, pedestrians, cyclists and every other kind of road user. Car crashes affect young people disproportionately by killing more people aged 5-34 than any other cause of death. More than 2.3 million people annually also suffer serious injuries from crashes.

The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety Culture Index, which tracks how the public's views and perceptions of traffic safety issues change over time. More than 11.000 surveys were administered to Americans aged 16 and up from 2009-2012 to determine the results.

AAA FINDLAY AUTOMOBILE CLUB

1550 Tiffin Ave., Findlay, OH 45840-6855 Phone: (419) 422-4961 Fax: (419) 422-5620 www.AAAFindlay.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. 9 a.m.-noon Closed Sun. and Holidays

E-MAIL ADDRESSES:

airlines@aaafindlay.com insurance@aaafindlay.com membership@aaafindlay.com travelbycar@aaafindlay.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

CHAIRMAN, Jerry E. Hawkins VICE CHAIRMAN, Dan Campling TREASURER, Greg Rakestraw **SECRETARY**, Kurt Heminger TRUSTEE, Tom Buis

AAA Findlay Automobile Club Pleasures, Volume 3, Number 4 (USPS 002-549) (ISSN 1933-4591) is the official publication of the Findlay Automobile Club, 1550 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, OH 45840-6855 as of the Spring (March), 2011 edition. It is published four times annually by Findlay Automobile Club. Periodicals mail postage paid at Findlay, OH and other additional mailing offices. Subscriptions: members \$1.50 annually Subscriptions: members \$1.50 annually included in principal membership dues. For Information: Contact Findlay

For Information: Contact Findlay Automobile Club office.
Postmaster: Send address changes to AAA Findlay Automobile Club Pleasures, 1550 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, OH 45840-6855.

Change of Address: Allow six weeks advance notice. Send new address and mailing label from latest issue to AAA

Findlay Automobile Club Pleasures, 1550 Tiffin Avenue, Findlay, OH 45840-6855





Travel the country with confidence with the AAA Visa TravelMoney® card. Accepted worldwide at millions of merchants and ATMs, you will feel comfortable knowing the card is not linked to any of your accounts and can be replaced if lost or stolen.

AAA Visa TravelMoney® card Visit participating AAA offices, AAA.com/travelmoney, or call 1-866-674-9622.



The "Emerald Isle" offers something for everybody



It's not known as the Emerald Isle for nothing – a tour of Ireland's lush meadows and wild woodlands will treat you to a natural display of every colour green imaginable. You'll also discover dramatic coastlines and fantastic local produce that only this pristine environment can provide, all while enjoying the famous Irish hospitality.

A good starting point for your Irish holiday is the capital of Ireland, Dublin. See the beautifully illustrated medieval Book of Kells and walk the hallowed halls of literary giants such as Samuel Beckett and Oscar Wilde at the oldest university in Ireland, Trinity College. Wonder at the grandeur of St Patrick's Cathedral, dedicated to Ireland's patron saint or take a sightseeing tour of Dublin's architectural gems, the Georgian Squares. After all the fun of a visit to Dublin you'll be ready to taste a glass of Ireland's iconic beer, Guinness, at one of the city's many traditional pubs.

Ireland's second biggest city, Cork, is a great base from which to see some of the most popular Irish tourist attractions. You won't have to travel more than ten minutes from the centre of Cork to get to Blarney Castle, a medieval fortress that is home to the Blarnev Stone, which is said to give those who kiss it the 'gift of the gab'. A hike to the top of Blarney Castle's 90-foot tower will be well worth the

effort when you're enjoying stunning views across lush Irish countryside as far as the eve can see.

Killarney is another popular stop on an Irish vacation for its proximity to picturesque Irish destinations such as the breathtaking Killarney National Park and the adorable village of Adare, known as 'the prettiest village in Ireland'. Killarney is also the gateway to the Ring of Kerry, a world-renowned scenic drive along the Iveragh Peninsula that takes you past rugged coastal cliffs, pristine lakes and mountain ranges. And you won't just encounter natural wonders following the Ring of Kerry; you'll pass intriguing Iron Age forts and medieval monasteries that will give you fascinating insights into Irish history.

Further north is Limerick, Ireland's third most populous city and home of the stately King John's Castle on the banks of the Shannon River. Another Limerick sight you won't want to miss is the city's oldest surviving building, St Mary's Cathedral built in the auspicious year of 1111. And your Limerick visit just wouldn't be complete without a look at the historic Treaty Stone where the siege-ending treaty of 1691 was allegedly signed, bringing peace to the city.

A popular Irish attraction iust outside Limerick is the most complete and authentic medieval fortress in Ireland.

Bunratty Castle. Wander through its grand rooms delighting in the impressive collection of medieval furniture and artefacts or explore the adjacent Folk Park where more than 30 buildings showcase 19th century rural life in Ireland.

If you love your scenery wild and dramatic, the Cliffs of Moher will not disappoint. Its not hard to see why this is the number one tourist attraction in Ireland when you stand at the top of the 120 metre (390 foot) cliff face overlooking the raging Atlantic Ocean. There is an eco-friendly Visitor Centre on site where you can visit the Atlantic Edge exhibition to learn more about this awe-inspiring natural Irish landmark.

At the oldest city in Ireland, Waterford, discover the Emerald Isle's Viking past with a visit to Reginald's Tower, a genuine Viking stronghold, before checking out the city's most famous export, Waterford Crystal. A piece of this fine quality craftsmanship would be the ultimate take-home reminder of your enchanting holiday in Ireland.

Don't forget to soak up some of the rich history of Ireland on your Irish tour by visiting sites of great cultural significance like the Rock of Cashel, where the legendary St Patrick converted the King of Munster to Christianity in the 5th century, or the shrine

to John F Kennedy at New Ross that commemorates a 1963 visit to his ancestral home town.

You'll be spoilt for choice when it comes to food in Ireland. Irish cuisine is becoming increasingly international and you can find a great range of foods to choose from in most towns. However, you can't let your

Irish holiday pass without trying a few traditional dishes such as Bacon and Cabbage Stew, Packet and Tripe or Crubeens, all washed down with a healthy pint of Guinness, of course!

Wherever your vacation in Ireland takes you, you'll fall in love with this pretty green

AAA'S TRAVEL EXPERTS

The best travel agents know the travel business is more than booking hotels and cruises. It's building relationships.



BARB BRADNER, Travel Agent bbradner@aaafindlay.com In the travel industry for more than 30 years, Barb is a leader in travel bookings. Clients are amazed at the detail and ideas she is able to provide them.



DENNIS MCDANIEL, Travel Agent dmcdaniel@aaafindlay.com A travel agent for more than 30 years, Denny is well traveled. His dedication and commitment. to AAA members are the reasons his clients keep returning.



MICHELE RETTIG, Manager airlines@aaafindlay.com With more than 20 years of experience in the travel industry, Michele can assist with all your travel needs. Contact her today to help plan

your next dream vacation.

AUTO TRAVEL COUNSELORS

travelbycar@aaafindlay.com



NANCY HENSON Counselor

BILL **MAYS**



Counselor

GAYNELL **TROIANO** Manager

No matter where your journey takes you, AAA Travel is your best source for the industry's widest range of products and services. Contact us today.

E-mail your friendly AAA Findlay Travel agent or call us at

(419) 422-4961

Got a Ticket? Get Tips from AAA

AAA offers up important tips on how to proceed after being issued a traffic ticket

Traffic tickets can impact your driving record, raise insurance rates, and cost you time, money and stress. AAA's experts advise that taking the right approach to promptly resolve tickets can minimize these potential difficulties and get you back to driving safely.

State and county laws vary greatly and knowing your options and the processes in your region for paying or contesting a ticket can help avoid confusion, delay, and further complications. Your ticket paperwork should include guidance for learning more information. AAA offers the following tips to keep in mind after receiving a traffic ticket or violation:

The Clock is Ticking

Pay close attention to the due date or "Notice to Appear" date on your citation. Failing to appear on the given date or late payment of a fine can result in additional costs and consequences including suspension of your license or even a warrant being issued for your arrest. Failing to act by the given date may also limit your options for resolving the ticket.

The "Fine" Print

When it comes to resolving traffic tickets, details matter. Ask the issuing officer, read your ticket paperwork thoroughly or ask the court about how tickets can be paid. Some jurisdictions accept payment online, while others require that payment be mailed or made in person.

Also, make sure that you pay the exact amount listed on the traffic ticket, to include the fine and relevant fees, court costs or other charges. Submitting the incorrect amount will delay processing.

Pay It or Contest It or Earn Your Way Clear

There are several factors to consider when deciding to pay or contest a ticket and you should be aware of your



Diamond Rated AAA Approved Local Restaurants Bistro on Main Rossilli's 407 S. Main St. • Findlay • (419) 425-4900 217 S. Main St. • Findlay • (419) 423-5050 Logan's Irish Pub Steve's Dakota Grill 414 S. Main St. • Findlay • (419) 420-3602 1600 Broad Ave. • Findlay • (419) 420-9394 Tony's Restaurant & Pub Rancho Fiesta 1739 Tiffin Ave. • Findlay • (419) 424-9363 10280 US 224 West • Findlay • (419) 424-3100 (Updated with TourBook info. Valid thru April 2014.)

options and their potential consequences. In most states. paying the fine assessed is considered an admission of guilt. Resolving your ticket in this way may, in most states, put a traffic offense on your driving record and can cause a pre-determined number of

points to be assessed on your driver's license. Accruing too many points in a certain amount of time could result in the suspension of your license.

Contesting the ticket may require you to appear in court, in which you would represent

yourself or retain legal counsel. Contesting a ticket in court and being found not guilty absolves you of the offense, fine and other consequences; however, if you are found guilty, you may be responsible for the original fine, plus additional fees and court costs.



Sensible Spending: SMART.

Real Discounts: INGENIOUS.

How can you stretch your dollar? There are plenty of deals out there but who has time to compare all the ads, clip the coupons or keep track of loyalty cards? AAA members save every day on brand names they know and trust, without making bargain hunting a second job!











Now more than ever, it's time to get AAA discounts.

HANCOCK COUNTY LOCAL SHOW YOUR CARD & SAVE

- AAA Car Care Plus, 10270 US 224 West, special member pricing
- Lauger's Carpet One, 300 Walnut St. Findlay, 419.423.8771, 10% off regular price
- Flag City Auto Wash, 1035 Croy Dr., 419.424.1726 or 339 E. Main Cross St. Findlay, 419.422.7216, \$2 off "The Works"
- Clark's Automotive Restyling-paintless dent removal, 419.428.3606, 10% off
- Paul Davis Emergency Services, 2447 Tiffin Ave. Findlay, Restoration Srvs. 10% off any job up to \$300

1-800-Flowers 1-800-GOT-JUNK AAA Prescription Savings Atlas / Smart Move Banana Republic Factory Stores Best Western Blue Nile Dell DIRECTV Extra Space Storage

Gap Outlet Geek Squad Gray Line Hard Rock Cafe Hampton Inn Hilton Hyatt I andry's Group Lenscrafters

Magellar Napa New York & Company Newport Audiology Centers Payless Shoe Source Pearle Vision Reebok.com Reebok Rockport Outlet SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment

Sprint Sylvan Learning Centers Tanger Outlets Target Optical
The Parking Spot The UPS Store Thrifty TravelCenters of America Universal Orlando Universal Studios Hollywood





Tips to protect your child at college

Sending your child to college can bring on the tears for some parents. But getting a call that your child's possessions were stolen or unexpectedly damaged beyond repair will really make you cry.

You can avoid the problem by making sure your college student is properly insured against these risks. For about \$179 a year (that's the average cost of renters insurance in Ohio, according to the Ohio Insurance Institute), you can protect your child's possessions against theft or damage caused by fire, lightning, smoke, vandalism, electrical surges, windstorms or hail, water damage from utilities or appliances, and more.

The same insurance also provides liability protection for students living off campus.

Considering that a laptop alone costs an average of \$500, give or take a hundred, that \$179 premium to replace such items doesn't seem so bad. Add to that the fact that you sent little Johnny or Ashley off to college with a number of other expensive items, such as a smart phone, TV, tablet,

computer, printer, furniture, clothes, jewelry or a bike. Your child has a gold mine right in his or her dorm room, so you might consider insuring it.

What kind of insurance does your son or daughter need?

Renters insurance - but the good news is that you may not need it, depending on your current insurance coverage.

Is your child already covered by your homeowners?

Homeowners policies typically cover the belongings of students younger than 26 who live away from home and are enrolled in classes. But policies vary, so call our office to learn the specifics of what is and isn't covered in your own policy.

The weakness of relying upon a coverage extension from your homeowner's policy, however, is your child would have limited coverage on their possessions, as most policies limit the amount of insurance to 10 percent of the total coverage for personal possessions. Some possessions, like jewelry,

electronics and computers, may have coverage limits. If your child lives off-campus, the possibility exists that their personal property will not be covered by of your homeowners policy.

You have the option of purchasing a renters insurance policy in the name of the student, to provide you with peace of mind. Knowing that theft is a prevalent issue in colleges, an added benefit of purchasing a policy in the student's name is that any claims filed will not be on the record of the parents' policy.

Some insurers allow students rooming together off campus to purchase a joint renters policy, whereas others require that each student has renters insurance.

How much coverage would I need?

Ask your child to create an inventory of the items he or she has at college. Provide this information to your insurance agent, and then you can make an informed decision about the amount of coverage your child needs and whether any specific endorsements (like jewelry

coverage) should be purchased.

Creating an inventory is easy. An Internet search will provide inventory templates that your child can fill out and send home to keep off site. Your child can also use a free iPhone or Android inventor app called my HOME ScrAPP.book. Back up this written list with photos or videos of valuables. You won't regret these steps if the time comes to file a claim.

What else can my child do to be protected at school?

Aside from purchasing insurance, here are some common-sense tips you can share with your child.

* Tell Junior to engrave his electronics and other possessions with his name and phone number or mark items with an invisible permanent marker, a simple action that can help police validate stolen items.

- * Keep digital copies of store receipts for high-ticket items.
- * Tell your child and his/her roommates to lock their dorm room door every time they leave the room. They should also store their valuables like wallets and keys out of sight as a habit.
- * If they have something really valuable they can do without, ask them to leave it at home.
- * Tell your child not to leave his/her backpack, laptop or other possessions unattended in dining halls, in the library, or anywhere on campus, including in classrooms. Use a laptop security cable to deter thieves.

In a nutshell, it's easy to gamble and say no to insurance. But for an average of under \$15 a month, you can get peace of mind, and if the unexpected happens, you'll be covered.





Risks homeowners policies don't cover

Time and again we hear of flood victims who learn that their insurance didn't cover flood damage.

Flooding isn't the only scenario not covered by many homeowners policies.

Because all policies differ, your best bet is to call our office to find out exactly what your policy does cover and what damages are excluded.

Typical exclusions that could affect you right here in Ohio include backup of sewers and drains, mold and termites.

Sewer backup in your home

Sewer backup is a nasty problem that has become more prevalent as our sewer lines can

sometimes be over a century old. Sewer backup doesn't just damage your flooring, walls and possessions, it also damages wiring and electricity.

A homeowners policy without an endorsement typically doesn't cover sewer backup, so it's wise to purchase an endorsement, which usually costs about \$40 to \$50 a year.

Dreaded Mold

Mold is another hazard often not covered by insurance or that has limited coverage. Mold has been linked to health problems including allergies and respiratory issues.

Moisture puts you at risk of growing mold, so the best practice is to deal with the issue

DISCOUNT

TICKETS

AVAILABLE

FOR MEMBERS

AT AAA

☑ THEME PARKS

☑ WATER PARKS

CLICK AAA.COM

OR COME IN

Carmike Cinemas

Walt Disney World

Universal Orlando

Newport Aquarium

Columbus Zoo Toledo Zoo

Dollywood

Sea World

Busch Gardens

All tickets prices subject to change some

attractions open on a seasonal basis only

age restrictions and pricing

☑ AQUARUIMS

☑ MOVIES

☑ ZOOS

the moment moisture occurs. If a room gets flooded, attack the problem immediately by calling in a professional. Again, your insurance company may offer a mold endorsement to protect you from such damage. Contact our office to learn more.

Termites are a threat that can cause serous damage when

but homeowners policies do not cover termite damage. Ask a licensed pest control company to do an inspection if you are concerned about termites.

The best way to prepare for the unexpected is to get to know what is and isn't covered by your homeowners policy





Termites, masters of silent destruction

not treated. Termites tend too colonize moist areas where wood, paper or dead plants touch the soil near your home's foundation. They thrive in damp crawl spaces and feast on wood beams in your home. The structural damage caused by these insects can be significant,

Roadside Assistance Member Benefits

Please take a few minutes to acquaint yourself with the Emergency Road Service provided by Findlay Automoblie Club.

Emergency road service (ERS) is available 24/7 and is designed to assist you in an emergency when the vehicle you are either driving or riding in becomes disabled. Your membership coverage applies to the emergency and towing services listed in this brochure.

ELIGIBLE VEHICLES

Service applies to all properly licensed four-wheeled motor vehicles of the passenger, pleasure or recreational type (vans, campers and motor homes) regardless of license plate designation, if those services can be safely delivered.

Dual-wheel campers/motor homes are eligible for all services except towing, extrication/winching and tire service. Dual-wheel unloaded pickup trucks are eligible for all services except tire service. Rented passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles are eligible for service with the exception of taxi cabs and limousines.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

The following emergency services will be provided to place your vehicle in a drivable condition. If these attempts are unsuccessful after a reasonable effort by the service provider, the towing service provision will apply.

MECHANICAL ADJUSTMENTS

Minor/temporary adjustments will be made in an attempt to enable your vehicle to operate safely under its own power.



BATTERY BOOST

A battery boost will be provided in an attempt to start your vehicle.

BATTERY REPLACEMENT SERVICE

In selected areas, when a AAA member calls for assistance or submits a request online and the problem is believed to be battery-related, a mobile battery replacement vehicle may be dispatched. A trained specialist will test the battery and the vehicle charging system at no cost to the member. If the battery needs to be replaced, the member can request to purchase one and the specialist will install one on the spot. Battery Replacement Service vehicles carry batteries that will properly fit approximately 90 percent of all cars, SUVs and light trucks on the road.



FLAT TIRE

If your vehicle's spare is inflated and serviceable, it will be installed to replace a flat tire. If no inflated spare is available, the vehicle

will be towed in accordance with the towing provision.

FUEL DELIVERY



A limited supply of fuel will be delivered to your disabled vehicle to enable you to reach the nearest open service station.

Specific brands or octane ratings cannot be promised. You will be charged the current pump price for the fuel.

AAA Plus/AAA Plus RV provides no additional cost, a sufficient amount of fuel will be provided to enable you to reach the nearest service station.



LOCKOUT SERVICE

If your keys are locked inside the vehicle, service will be sent to gain entrance. If the key

that operates or provides access to the passenger compartment of the vehicle is lost, broken or the service provider cannot gain entrance to your vehicle, locksmith service up to \$50 or reimbursement for commercial locksmith service up to \$50 will be provided. In cases where the vehicle cannot be made operable, towing services will be provided in accordance with AAA Findlay Automobile Club towing provision.AAA Plus/AAA Plus RV provides added coverage or reimbursement up to \$100 in parts and labor for locksmith service, if such service is required to unlock your vehicle or make it operable.



EXTRICATING/ WINCHING

Your vehicle will be extricated/ winched when it can be safely reached from a normally

traveled or established thoroughfare. If special equipment, more than one truck, or more than one person is required, the associated costs may be at your expense.

AAA Plus/AAA Plus RV provides coverage to include the delivery of services

by a second service vehicle and operator for one hour at the scene is provided.



TOWING SERVICES

When your vehicle cannot be safely driven after attempting any of the listed emergen-

cy services, your vehicle will be towed to the ERS facility rendering the service, or a maximum of three miles in any direction from the point of disablement at no charge.

In instances when your vehicle becomes disabled while towing a light duty trailer, service will be provided for the trailer (excludes fifth-wheel trailers). You may be required to pay for trailer towing.

AAA Plus/AAA Plus RV provides up to 100 miles of free towing in any direction from the point of disablement to the destination of your choice are provided. In situations when a member needs a repair facility, AAA Approved Auto Repair facilities are available that meet and maintain AAA's high professional standards.

SCOPE OF SERVICE

Under your membership, emergency road service will be provided without charge from the nearest available AAA service provider. Your service call will include a trip to the disabled vehicle where the service operator will attempt to make your vehicle operable.

We select ERS facilities for their ability to handle your service request, but we cannot guarantee these providers will always have the parts and equipment to make repairs.

When your vehicle cannot be made operable upon providing the services listed in this brochure, AAA Findlay will assist you in finding the nearest open place of repair. If a repair facility cannot be located, AAA Findlay will assist you in obtaining lodging or alternative transportation.

Charges for service that exceeds the benefits listed will be at the prevailing hourly or mileage rate of the region where service is provided.

Plus RV: Eligible Vehicles

AAA Plus RV extends present ERS and AAA Plus benefits to include motorhomes, pickup trucks with campers, travel trailers, motorcycles and fifthwheel travel trailers.

IN MANY AREAS, EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE FACILITIES ARE

INDEPENDENT BUSINESSES AND ARE NOT EMPLOYEES OF AAA OR ITS AFFILIATES. RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSS, DAMAGE OR UNSATISFACTORY WORKMANSHIP REMAINS WITH THE ERS FACILITY PROVIDING THE SERVICE. THE CLUB WILL ASSIST BY MEDIATING UNRESOLVED ISSUES.

The member is expected to be with the vehicle at the time of service.

HOW TO OBTAIN EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICES LOCALLY AND WHEN TRAVELING

Refer to the information printed on your membership card, call (800) AAA-HELP or visit AAAfındlay.com.Members can also request emergency road service on the Internet. Go to AAA.com and click on the Road Service Online link. Simply fill the online form and AAA will be on the way.

SERVICES NOT COVERED

A) Service will not be rendered when the disabled vehicle cannot be safely reached and properly serviced without damage to either vehicle.

B) Vehicles located in an area not regularly traveled by private passenger automobiles (such as open fields, beaches, creek beds, snow-filled lanes or driveways).

C) The installation or removal of tire chains.

D) Shoveling snow from around the vehicle or clearing a road or driveway.

E) Storage or impound charges (police-directed tow for violation of law or ordinance).

F) Freight charges or special trips for the delivery of parts.

G) Cost of shop labor or parts including tire repair (round-trips

for tire repair).

ALTERNATE SERVICE

If you have followed the procedure outlined to obtain emergency road service and AAA service is not available, or AAA contractor access is restricted (toll roads, limited access highways), the club will provide reimbursement for covered services at the prevailing commercial rate for the region. Reimbursement on restricted access roads may be limited to the cost of towing the vehicle to the nearest exit or responding garage at the member's discretion.

If AAA service was available but not requested, reimbursement may be limited to the amount the club would normally have paid for the covered service. Reimbursement is provided at the prevailing commercial rates for covered AAA Plus or AAA Plus RV benefits if service is requested but is not available.

You must submit the original receipt within 30 days of service for consideration. The club may adjust or deny reimbursement for service provided by individuals or companies not normally engaged in providing emergency road service.

For lockout reimbursement see information under Lockout Service.

EMERGENCY REPAIR CHECK ACCEPTANCE

Your personal check for up to \$250 will be accepted by any independent contract facility providing emergency services or repairs for AAA members. A valid membership card and identification must be presented at the time of payment. The name on the check must match the member name.

EXCESSIVE USE

In fairness to all members, emergency road service is not to be used as a substitute for proper vehicle maintenance.

Your membership entitles you to four service calls per member within the membership year. After the fourth call is used, no further service calls will be authorized, however, other AAA benefits will still be available. Service can be provided but the member must absorb the cost of the service at the time of service. Members are responsible for keeping track of their calls.

SERVICE COMMENT

It is Findlay Automobile Club's goal to provide you with the highest quality emergency road service available. All AAA clubs maintain the highest quality emergency road service available throughout the continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii and Canada. Certain benefits may vary from club to club.

Help us maintain these high standards of emergency road service. Any comments you may have will enable us to continually improve our services.

Address your comments to:

AAA Findlay Automobile Club 1550 Tiffin Ave. Findlay, OH 45840 (419) 422-4961

Reports of unsatisfactory service for investigation must be made within five days of the incident.

AAA stresses the importance of preventive maintenance.

A car can't last forever, but if you take good care of it, you can make it go the distance for decades and maintain its value. AAA Car Doctor John Paul stresses the importance of preventive maintenance. Repairs are expensive, but many can be avoided if you follow this advice.

- 1. Read your owner's manual. The handy book, which should be kept in your glove compartment, contains recommendations of which services should be performed and when. Read it thoroughly, so you can get an idea of what your car needs in advance. This book should be your guide to all the maintenance with your car. If your repair shop has other recommendations, refer to the vehicle owner's manual. Some repair shops will add unnecessary service, such as fluid changes or flushes that are not required. Of course, if fluids are contaminated they need to be changed, but not at the whim of the repair shop.
- 2. Keep a logbook. Store a notebook with your owner's manual. This will help you keep track of all maintenance tasks performed. When your car gets

an oil change, mark the date and mileage. Write down every time you add or change fluids. Keep track of your gas mileage and record repairs. "Your log will reveal any unusual car behavior," Paul said. Keeping a logbook will help verify maintenance was performed if there are any warranty issues.

- 3. Be aware of your battery. A battery lasts about five years, but after three, you should have it tested annually. With AAA's mobile battery service, you can schedule an appointment to have a truck come to you to test your battery. Is your car frequently sitting in the driveway for a month or longer? "Consider using a Battery Tender, as this will help maintain the battery and maximize its life," Paul added.
- 4. Check your tire pressure. When the tires are cool, check pressure with a tire gauge. Under-inflation can reduce tire life and give you poor gas mileage. Look at the sticker on the driver's side door to find out the proper pressure.
- 5. Check your tire tread. Equally important to tire pressure is the tread depth, which helps your vehicle

maintain traction in rain or snow. Take a quarter and insert it head first between the grooves of the tread. If the tread doesn't reach George Washington's head, it is worn out and potentially unsafe. As we see more rear-wheel drive cars coming to market, snow tires may be mandatory if you need to be out in wintry weather. Rotating tires helps extend tire life and is a good time to check the condition of the brakes, which are easily visible when the wheels are removed.

- 6. Check your lights. At least once a month, check the lights to make sure they are in working order. Turn on your headlights and step outside to inspect their brightness. To test brake lights, get a friend to stand behind the vehicle as you sit in the driver's seat and put your foot on the brake. "If one of your headlights or brake lights are burnt out at night, drivers might mistake you for a motorcycle," Paul said.
- 7. Replace wipers. Blades should be replaced every six months to a year. Though they are easy to check and change, we tend to think about them

only when it's raining; by the time they need to be replaced, they are not able to do their job anymore. Be on the lookout for streaking, squeaking or chattering, as that means your wipers are wiped out. Consider dedicated winter wiper blades to prevent ice buildup during poor weather.

- 8. Stay on top of recalls. In most cases, manufacturers will notify you if any recalls involve your vehicle. But if you have moved around, check www. safercar.gov to be aware of issues. Recalls don't cost you anything, so get repairs done as soon as possible. Many drivers ignore recalls. These repairs should be performed since in many cases they may involve safety- or emissions-related issues. Failure to have this work performed could be dangerous, and could cost you more for gas because your car is not running as efficiently as possible.
- 9. Clean the interior.
 Thoroughly clean and vacuum the inside of your car monthly. "The more often you do it, the easier it gets," Paul said. This will help remove dirt from upholstery and carpeting before it becomes embedded.

If it's necessary to scrub the upholstery, make sure you buy specific upholstery cleaner, and avoid using too much water as it can lead to mold and mildew. Use a shop vacuum to soak up excess water. Don't forget to clean under the seats where food and other debris can hide. With cooler weather coming, some critters are looking for a home. Leaving food in a car is like sending mice and other rodents an invitation.

10. Wash the exterior frequently. Try to wash your car once a week. Remove bird droppings immediately, as the acid can eat the paint. Use only car wash soap and a clean sponge or mitt. "Never use dish detergent because it will strip the wax right off your car," Paul said. Touch up any scratches with matching touchup paint. Wax can help restore and maintain the paint. Follow the instructions on the package, applying only a thin layer onto an applicator. Squirting it on directly can discolor the paint. And be sure to fully remove it. Waxing and polishing your car four times per year can help keep it in showroom condition.

