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News Release

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CAA Summer Safety Tips

CAA, as a dedicated safety advocate for drivers, pedestrians, cyclists and travellers, has some useful information to help keep everyone safe this summer.

School Zone Safety: caask.ca/schoolzonesafety

- * School yards, playgrounds, and parks are still busy places for active children of all ages. Motorists, please drive with caution and reduce your speed. Observe the posted speed limit and regulated days and hours as some areas may still be designated for lower speed limits during the summer months.
- * A CAA survey has indicated that school zones are becoming more dangerous. Parents with young children are reporting an increase in unsafe driving practices in school zones, specifically speeding and distracted driving.
- * Children, never run out in traffic or between parked cars, buses or building. While walking, cycling, or playing, please don't use your cell phones for texting, phoning or gaming. Be alert, keep your head up, look around and be aware of your surroundings.

Driver Safety: caask.ca/driversafety

* Allow plenty of travel time. Set the GPS and/or review all maps and directions prior to driving. Stow and secure loose objects. Prepare children with everything they need before heading out. Plan your route in advance and share details with friends or family. Drive according to the current road and weather conditions. Remember to slow to 60 km/h on Saskatchewan highways when passing working tow truck operators, emergency personnel and construction crews. Please don't drive impaired. Pack a roadside assistance kit and include a flashlight with extra batteries, a first-aid kit, tire pressure gauge, pliers, adjustable wrench, blanket, or purchase a roadside assistance kit at your local CAA Store. Add non-perishable food and water, windshield washer fluid, jumper cables, and emergency flares or reflectors. Pack a mobile phone with charger, for emergency use only. Ensure documents are up-to-date including driver's licence, licence plate stickers, vehicle insurance, travel insurance, and CAA membership. Be on the lookout for farm machinery and recreation vehicles on our roads. Watch for wildlife. Keep two hands on the steering wheel, remain focused and attentive.

Driver Distractions:

* Distracted driving takes your eyes, and mind, off the road. Drivers engaged in visual-manual interactions with cell phones (i.e. texting) are up to eight times as likely to be involved in a crash (AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, 2017). Eliminate distractions while driving, such as use of mobile phones, eating, drinking, adjusting entertainment or navigation systems, grooming, long conversations and smoking.

Automotive & Recreation Vehicle (RV) Safety:

* Have your vehicle inspected prior to travelling to ensure your vehicle is in top operating condition and to avoid breakdowns during your summer travels. If unexpected breakdowns do occur, be sure to have access to a roadside assistance provider like CAA. The [CAA Mobile App](#) is also available to access roadside service or for CAA Member benefits including [TripTiks, tour books and maps](#). Check the tires, brake fluid, coolant and oil plus window washer wipers and fluid. Examine belts for proper belt tension. Vehicle batteries should also be checked and this can be easily completed at the [CAA Care Centre at Regina Battery Depot](#), or at any [CAA Approved Auto Repair Service](#).



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The wheels on recreation vehicles, boat trailers and camper trailers should be checked as well. The wheel lug nuts need to be set to the proper torque to make sure they do not come loose or come off the trailer. Wheel bearings should be greased and adjusted annually and trailer suspension springs also need to be inspected for wear. Read the vehicle or RV owner’s manual for mechanical or maintenance information.

Bike Safety: caask.ca/bikesafety

* Cyclists, remember to yield to pedestrians, stop for stop signs, and travel with the flow of traffic. If you are riding a bicycle, you are considered – by – law – a vehicle on the road. If you dismount and walk alongside your bike, you are considered a pedestrian and have the same rights as a pedestrian. Always follow the rules of the road when riding on city streets and rural roads. Plan your ride and avoid dangerous routes. To choose the best bicycle for you, consider size, frame, and seat height, as well as the type of roads or trails you ride on. Always wear a helmet. It’s important to be seen, be heard, and be ready.



* Image courtesy of CAA®

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