



HELLO
Summer
GOODBYE
Spring

WOF
REPAIRS
SERVICES
MAINTENANCE
ALL MAKES AND MODELS

Happy Holidays

and thank you for all your business in 2015.

As we head into the busy holiday season, we have a few travel tips about how to ensure your trips and your vehicles are hassle-free.

Automotive Solutions members can carry out a pre-holiday safety/service check for you. A quick call for an appointment is all it takes.

Fishing is also on the agenda - the snapper are on their way in, and in another month or so, the marlin will be hunting through our waters - bring it on!

Make sure your rods and reels are good to go and don't forget to get the boat and trailer up to scratch as well.

We are part of the Automotive Solutions network which means if you find yourself stuck or broken down in another part of New Zealand, there are other trusted members that can help you get back on the road.

Have a look at our website www.automotivesolutions.co.nz to find an Automotive Solutions workshop near you.

While you are visiting an Automotive Solutions member's repair centre keep an eye out for our new posters.

We wish you all a very safe and happy holiday this Christmas and New Year.



Professionalism and integrity are at our core

Automotive Solutions is a leading network of independent professional automotive repair centres throughout New Zealand, all dedicated to excellent standards of workmanship and service.

Passion is the common denominator of all our repair centres' staff and management. A passion for all things automotive and a passion for going the extra mile.

Find your nearest Automotive Solutions Member at www.automotivesolutions.co.nz.

Tips, Before You Travel This Summer



Below are some tips that you may like to take into consideration before heading into the busy holiday season.

- Have your vehicle checked.** Automotive Solutions Members offer safety checks for tyre tread and pressure, lights, brakes, cooling systems and other components. *(A well tuned vehicle is also more fuel efficient so you'll also save money on fuel costs).*
- Ensure your warrant of fitness**, road users, and registration are all up to date.
- Be alert to changes.** Often during holiday periods, passing lanes are closed to help reduce congestion and prevent further delays where the traffic merges at the end of lanes. Sometimes alternative routes are suggested.
- Check out updates about highways that you may use** www.nzta.govt.nz/traffic/current-conditions/highway-info/index.html for real time updates about route changes, delays, closures and incidents.
- Check that you have a current drivers licence** and that it hasn't expired or is close to expiry – if you get caught without a current or valid license it could cost you \$400+.
- Check your trailers and caravans.** Check all towing attachments and make sure the couplings are compatible. Also remember to check the safety chain, trailer lights, tyres and brakes.

How much can your vehicle safely tow?

Most vehicles have tow ratings provided when purchased by the manufacturer specifying the gross trailer weight braked, unbraked, or both, that the vehicle can safely tow.

Although the law does not require these tow ratings to be followed, Land Transport New Zealand recommends that they be taken into account.

In addition to the requirements above, the law requires that every light vehicle and trailer combination must be capable of stopping within a distance of seven metres from a speed of 30 km/h. In effect, this means that the maximum allowable weight of an unbraked trailer is limited by the weight and braking ability of the vehicle being used to tow it.

Land Transport NZ recommends, as a guide, that the laden weight of an



unbraked trailer should not exceed three quarters of the unladen weight of the towing vehicle and then only if the towing vehicle's brakes and tyres are in excellent condition.

NOTE Remember that a car, utility vehicle or light van is not permitted to tow more than one trailer or vehicle.



TOMATO TIPS

1. Insert copper wire into the trunk of your tomato plant, this will help to keep early and late blight at bay.
2. Planting basil next to your tomatoes will improve the flavour of the fruit and repels many pests.
3. Sprinkle your left over coffee grinds around the plant to deter slugs and other pests.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The safest colour car is white
- The average bed contains over 6 billion dust mites
- That 2,500 left handed people are killed per year from using right handed products

QUOTE "When I was 5 years old, my mother always told me that happiness was the key to life. When I went to school, they asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wrote down 'happy'. They told me I didn't understand the assignment, and I told them they didn't understand life." - **John Lennon**



IS YOUR AIR CONDITIONING WORKING?

Check it out now before the heat really arrives!

Summer's imminent arrival means your vehicles air conditioning system is going to be under serious strain before long. **If you haven't had your system serviced in a while, now's the time.** While most newer vehicles may simply be able to get away with having their A/C recharged, older cars and trucks may require a little extra attention.

Yeah! My car passed its WOF, nothing further to do.

Yeah right.



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