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Autumn driving tips

While we all dread the approaching winter and its driving hazards, we should all remember that autumn can challenge us on the roads as well. The shorter days often mean commuting in darkness either in the morning, the evening or both. Be careful, and watch for pedestrians and cyclists who are sharing the roadway. Fallen leaves can make side streets slick, and the weather can surprise, too. We often get frost overnight, or early snow that can create black ice, or otherwise hamper your ability to see clearly.

Now is also the time to prepare a winter preparedness kit for your car. The Canadian Automobile Association, the CAA, recommends having the following items in your car, in case of emergency.

? Warm winter gloves, toque and boots and a blanket or extra clothing
? Bag of sand or kitty litter
? Small shovel with an ice scraper and/or snow brush
? Candy or chocolate bar for energy
? Extra windshield washer fluid
? First aid kit
? Hardcopy local map (not just a GPS unit)
? Flashlight and batteries
? Flares and waterproof matches
? Battery jumper cables