

Graff Chevrolet-Okemos Highlights Importance of Winter Vehicle Maintenance for Michigan Drivers

November 21, 2025

OKEMOS, MI - November 21, 2025 -
Graff Chevrolet-Okemos is underscoring the importance of preparing vehicles for Michigan?s approaching winter season, emphasizing that preventive maintenance can help reduce breakdowns and enhance driver safety in cold and hazardous conditions. As temperatures fall and roads become slick with snow and ice, vehicle systems face unique stresses that require early attention from motorists.

Michigan winters bring low temperatures that affect batteries, tire traction, and essential fluids. According to automotive industry experts, neglecting winter-specific maintenance increases the likelihood of mechanical failure and accidents. As a Chevrolet dealer in Okemos, MI, Graff Chevrolet-Okemos notes that simple actions?such as testing batteries, inspecting tires, and verifying antifreeze and wiper fluid levels?can significantly improve vehicle reliability and safety during severe weather.

Battery performance remains a top concern in cold climates. Low temperatures can reduce a battery?s capacity by nearly half, particularly in older units. Testing or replacing batteries before the onset of freezing

conditions can prevent starting issues. Tire maintenance is equally critical; adequate tread depth and proper inflation provide traction on icy roads, while dedicated winter tires improve braking and handling when temperatures drop below 45 degrees Fahrenheit.

Windshield wiper fluid rated for winter use prevents freezing, ensuring visibility in slush and snow. Checking antifreeze levels and brake systems is essential to avoid mechanical strain, while ensuring that heaters and defrosters function properly maintains both driver comfort and window clarity.

?Michigan drivers face some of the most challenging winter conditions in the country, and preparing vehicles in advance helps ensure they perform reliably when needed most,? said Matt Sloan, General Manager at Graff Chevrolet-Okemos. ?We encourage vehicle owners to schedule seasonal maintenance to identify issues before the first major snowfall arrives.?

Tom Alaniz, Service Manager at the dealership, added, ?Routine maintenance steps such as battery tests, tire inspections, and fluid replacements are simple yet effective. These checks extend vehicle life, prevent costly repairs, and contribute to safer driving throughout the winter months.?

Industry data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration indicates that adverse weather contributes to nearly one-quarter of all weather-related traffic accidents in the United States each year. Addressing vehicle readiness before severe weather begins is a proven method to reduce risk. The dealership?s certified technicians perform winter inspections using manufacturer-approved tools and parts, ensuring consistent standards of service.

Graff Chevrolet-Okemos also recommends that motorists assemble a basic emergency kit containing blankets, flashlights, jumper cables, and non-perishable snacks in case of roadside delays. Keeping the fuel tank at least half full prevents fuel-line freezing and allows drivers to maintain warmth if stranded. Regular oil changes with winter-grade oil can also help engines perform more efficiently in low temperatures.

Alignment checks are another essential step as potholes and rough road conditions during winter can cause uneven tire wear and reduced control. Clean, functional headlights and taillights further enhance visibility and safety on shorter, darker winter days.

?Proactive maintenance is not just about vehicle longevity?it?s about safety,? Alaniz noted. ?Drivers who take time to prepare now are less likely to face unexpected issues when road conditions are at their worst.?

Graff Chevrolet-Okemos serves drivers throughout the Lansing area, including Okemos, East Lansing, and

surrounding Mid-Michigan communities. The dealership provides new Chevrolet vehicles, pre-owned models, and certified maintenance performed by factory-trained technicians. Its operations emphasize safety, transparency, and support for community initiatives during Michigan?s demanding winter season.

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Graff Chevrolet-Okemos, Inc.

The team at Graff Chevrolet-okemos, Inc. would like to welcome you to our dealership in Okemos, where we?re confident you?ll find the vehicles you?re looking for at a price you can afford.

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