

An I Promise Program report - Thursday, May 29, 2003

It's after dark. Your car breaks down. Is your teen prepared?

Let's face it, cars, being what they are, do run into trouble. A flat tire, broken fan belt or dead battery is enough to keep anyone in their place at any time. As we all know, these things happen when we least expect it and when we are least prepared.

This issue prompted Gary Direnfeld, executive director of the "I Promise Program" – teen safe driving initiative, to figure out just what safety items are most recommended in the event of a breakdown or emergency. He surveyed police and driving instructors across North America by email, "These are the people who understand driver and traffic issues and are in the best position to advise," says Direnfeld. "It's so easy to throw some of these things into a container in the trunk and if we do, our young drivers may be in a safer position."

Direnfeld was prompted to concentrate on teen driver safety after years of providing brain injury rehabilitation to young drivers who acquired their brain injuries in car crashes. As his own teen came of driving age he sought to develop a program to reduce the risk of teen car crashes. Teen car crashes are the single greatest cause of injury and death in adolescence. His research led to the development of the "I Promise Program" (www.ipromiseprogram.com) that is slowly being popularized with parents across North America. "I just felt that if parents could be given another tool with which to promote the safety of their son or daughter they would appreciate it as I did. I know I'm not the only parent who cares about his kid", says Direnfeld. Direnfeld's son has been driving independently for two years without incident.

His question to police and driving instructors was simple, "What safety items would you suggest parents carry in their car, especially considering teen drivers?"

The results poured in and he tabulated the results. Seventy-eight separate items were recommended and given the controversy on the first item, it came as a bit of a surprise. Cell phone was the number one ranked item being recommended the most number of times in responses. The responders were quick to point out though that cell phones should not be used while driving. "We were told that many cell phones will still connect to 911, whether or not it is activated. This makes it truly a significant safety item," says Direnfeld. He suggests parents check with their cell phone carrier to make sure this is true in their area.

In addition to safety items, several of the responders indicated that the parent's first responsibility is to make sure the car is in good mechanical order. This hits home to Richard (Dick) Raines, president of CARFAX and father of three teenagers, who spearheaded and champions the CARFAX Safe Teen Drivers Program (www.carfax.com/teen).

"We believe a mechanically sound vehicle is the first step to safer teen driving--for teenagers, that first car will be a used vehicle," says Raines. "CARFAX helps parents uncover problems in a vehicle's past, which can affect the safety and value of the vehicle." By visiting www.carfax.com or by asking their car dealer, parents can obtain a detailed CARFAX Vehicle

History Report, as well as a Safety and Reliability Report, on virtually any used car. "Our CARFAX Safe Teen Drivers Program goes a step beyond assisting parents in locating safe cars by helping them become better driving coaches and by introducing them to resources such as the I Promise Program."

The top 5 items recommended most are:

Cell phone
First aid kit
Flashlight
Ice scraper
Blanket

To find out the other 73 items on the list, scroll down below the contact information. . . .

This survey was conducted by the I Promise Program – a teen safe driving initiative that promotes parents as role models by entering into a mutual safe driving contract with their teen. To provide accountability, a rear window decal is then affixed to the vehicle. The decal display a toll free number and the question, "Am I driving safely?" Calls are received by a call center and responses are sent by letter only back to the family. Youth, parents, community members, police and interested stakeholders in traffic safety have participated in developing this program. Data from the South Carolina State Police comparing Lancaster County to Greenwood County show a reduction in crashes in Lancaster County where the program has been active versus an increase in Greenwood County where the program has not been active. No negative reports on driving behavior have yet been received – May 22, 2003.

See: www.ipromiseprogram.com

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Below is the complete list of recommended safety items. Below that is the actual replies received from police and driving instructors across North America.

Item #	ITEM	RANK
1	cell phone	1
2	first aid kit	2
3	flashlight	3
4	ice scraper	3
5	blanket	4
6	pen/paper	5
7	flares	6
8	water	7
9	flat-fixer	7
10	emergency numbers	8
11	insurance certificate	9
12	jumper cables	10
13	assorted tools	11
14	extinguisher	12
15	snack	13
16	spare tire	13
17	fan belt	14
18	rope	14
19	jack	15
20	maps	15
21	registration	15
22	glass breaker	16
23	safety vest	16
24	driver manual	17
25	tire wrench	17
26	work gloves	18
27	duct tape	18
28	shovel	19
29	auto club card	19
30	disposable camera	20
31	medications	20
32	tire pressure gauge	20
33	folding triangles	20
34	car battery jump pack	20
35	cutter	21
36	money/gas card	21
37	fuses	21

38	shoes/boots	21
39	medical history	21
40	clothing	21
41	batteries	21
42	poncho	22
43	charger	22
44	washer liquid	22
45	flag	22
46	call police sign	22
47	knife	22
48	radio	22
49	motor oil	22
50	phone card	22
51	sand	22
52	surgical gloves	23
53	chain	23
54	clip on dash for papers	23
55	taxi voucher	23
56	spare bulbs	23
57	salt	23
58	collision card	23
59	sunglasses	23
60	lighter	23
61	trash bags	23
62	handy wipes	23
63	litter bag	23
64	paper towels	23
65	doctor's number	23
66	GPS locator	23
67	pepper spray	23
68	sun tan lotion	23
69	empty gas can	23
70	umbrella	23
71	feminine hygiene products	23
72	hand sanitizer	23
73	On Star	23
74	safe driving contract	23
75	mouth to mouth tube	23
76	defibrillator	23
77	bug repellent	23
78	owners manual	23

Actual email replies of police and driving instructors across North America:

1	<p>Surgical gloves Glass breaker Seat belt cutter Mouth-to-mouth tube Defibrillator Clean water These are, of course, in addition to the standard first aid kits properly equipped and regularly checked.</p>
2	<p>Dear Gary,</p> <p>Safety items to carry in the car would/should include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Car Kit (includes regionally/weather specific items) 2. Emergency Medical Kits 3. Cell Phone with voice mail capability 4. Emergency Money/Gas Card 5. DMV recommended items: insurance, registration, etc. <p>Jack</p>
3	<p>Gary, Just a few items.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 6 pack of Bottled water 2. 2 XXL ponchos (folded tightly in a Ziploc Bag) 3. Emergency fan belt (the kind you can snap together) (panty hose also works well) 4. Leather palm work gloves (folded tightly in a Ziploc Bag) 5. Jumpsuit. Large enough to easily go on over clothes.(folded tightly in a Ziploc) 6. Avon Skin So Soft (Or other good bug repellent. Pump spray not aerosol) 7. First Aid Kit (Make your own): Band-Aids (all sizes), Antiseptic cream (Not aerosol), roll of plastic wrap, petroleum jelly, aloe vera lotion, sun block 45 at least. 8. Duct tape 9. Jumper cables with laminated instructions. (the heavy expensive kind) 10. Rechargeable battery charger and jump starter. (Remember to recharge it) 11. 2 Flashlights with batteries (they make a plug in rechargeable kind too but have at least one with regular batteries) 12. A sturdy zippered bag to hold it all. 13. A note in your Day Runner and on Outlook to remember to check it every 6 months. <p>James</p>
4	<p>The "hammer" that will break side window and/or cut safety belt if car goes into the water and becomes submerged.</p>

	Susan
5	<p>Aside of the usual suggested items such as flashlight, jumper cables, windshield-washer liquid, and many other suggestions that could minimize the severity of emergencies, I always recommend to parent to bring along the state driver-licensing manual. This book helps the parents to get on the same page, so to speak, with their teen. In addition to the manual, the parents need to bring patience and understanding and a realization that this is a learning and transitional stage for both.</p> <p>Normand</p>
6	<p>Mike</p> <p>flashlight, jumper cables, flat fixer, the old fashion 4-way tire wrench, cell phone, white and red flags, chain or strong rope, small assortment of tools, some type of container which could be used to hold water</p>
7	<p>It really depends on who drives or where you drive (mountains, desert, city, backroads or interstates) but I would suggest the following:</p> <p>Call Home/Call 911 only cell phone (at least) Jump Start battery pack Water Blanket Small Tools Emergency Belts Extra Fuses Flashlight (w/extra batteries) Emergency Gas Can (Gas-a-haul containers store flat) Non perishable food/snacks Atlas and/or city maps</p> <p>Some of these items depend on weather the teen can fix anything, some can't change a fuse but some can rebuild an engine so keep that in mind.</p>
8	<p>Depends on where they live and what time of year it is, but certainly a first aid kit and fire extinguisher is a must. Other items to consider are basic tools, a blanket, and road flares. Registration and insurance papers always should be available. Teen drivers should also be instructed on how to contact authorities or someone else for help via cell phone or pay phone.</p>
9	<p>Cell phone and or change for pay phone. Basic First Aid Kit Bottled or bagged water and energy snacks Emergency numbers (Mom and Dads work numbers, pagers or cell #) Blanket Emergency or otherwise Flares Basic Car repair kit augmented with household items used to repair hoses.</p>
10	Gary,

	<p>Here are some things that may surprise you.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A mirror attached to the windscreen down low in the middle out of the way, so they can have contact with the passenger without having to turn their head. 2. A clip on the dash so they can put a list of errands or directions so they don't have to fiddle with a small piece of paper while driving or try to remember things. A pen and paper. 3. A hidden taxi voucher so if necessary they can get out of trouble without having to contact Mom and Dad. <p>The other things that are typically related to safety such as first aid and emergency kits with items like police signs etc. Are essential. As well a list of things to check if they have car trouble. This has to be related to their specific vehicle and is usually found in the owners manual.</p>
11	<p>Hi Gary, I think #1 should be cell phone to call for help. Or at least a call police sign (I have contact information for sponsors to order those). A spare tire, extra car lights/bulbs and fuses. Make sure your car in good mechanical order and you have enough gas for your trip.</p>
12	<p>Putting the old cell phone when you replace it with a plug in cord. Cell phones usually can call 911 even if they are not activated. Carrying a disposal camera in a bag is helpful.</p>
13	<p>I would suggest a first-aid kit, a cell phone for emergency use ONLY, a blanket, bottled water and a set of step-by-step instructions on what to do in the event of the vehicle becomes disabled, to include how to change a car tire.</p> <p>Morgen</p>
14	<p>A mobile phone (even if it is one that only calls 911)</p>
15	<p>Cell phone, HD flashlight. Winter climes - blankets, small bag of salt, small shovel.</p> <p>Chief Jerald</p>
16	<p>Hi Gary</p> <p>One thing that I impress upon novice drivers and/or parents is that they should have road maps in their vehicle, and how to use them!!! This helps to create a sense of security and self reliance.</p> <p>I also recommend that the owners manual be used as a reference for vehicle related questions. The novice driver will remember more if they look it up for themselves. Having said that, the owners manual should be in the glovebox.</p> <p>One of the biggest things I can give a student is the "Collision Card" In the classroom, when we go over what to do at the scene of a crash, I give</p>

	<p>each student a recipe card and have them write down the "List of things to do at the scene of a crash". They are then tasked with taking the collision card to the owner of the vehicle, asking them to go over it with the novice driver, adding anything else they think should be on the list and then placing the card in the glovebox with the proof of insurance and registration so that it is there if and when it is needed. I find one of the biggest causes of panic and fear at the scene of a crash, is having to tell the parent/owner of the vehicle, that they were involved in a crash. This card actually opens the lines of communication and establishes a point when and where the novice should call the parents/owner of the vehicle. Better to open this conversation before they have to!! It helps to eliminate stress on the driver at the actual scene.</p> <p>Empowering them!! I firmly believe that we need to give novice drivers all the standard safety devices, but when we give them tools that create a reliance on themselves, we are helping to keep them healthy!!</p>
17	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cell Phone 2. List of phone number's 3. Flashlight 4. First aid Kit
18	<p>Fire extinguisher; first aid kit; insurance/emergency contact information; cell phone; disposable camera (document accident scene); window punch and means to cut seatbelt (some are manufactured as one tool).</p>
19	<p>Reflective flares and reflective vest, and fix-a - flat (instant inflates a low tire)</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Terry</p>
20	<p>Cell Phone Flashlight (with fresh batteries) Small Tool Kit Roadside Emergency Kit Small First Aid Kit</p>
21	<p>Flashlight, road flares, fire extinguisher, packet of "What to do in case of a crash" information, first aid kit.</p>
22	<p>I believe the number one thing would be a cell phone as long as all the driver know the laws about not using them will driving. Other things would be a flashlight with blinker, battery operated flares or markers, a call for help window sign, a small tool kit and water.</p>
23	<p>My opinion may be in the minority, but I will offer just the same.</p> <p>It is too easy to suggest window breaking devices which are on the market now (in case the occupants are trapped) or some other device.</p> <p>Rather, I suggest parents spend most of their time talking about the mindset that a teenager must have which will hopefully prevent the need for</p>

	<p>emergency or safe equipment. Such as not letting "ego" get behind the wheel, not giving-in to peer pressure, planning your day so you are not in a hurry, not consuming alcohol, etc.</p> <p>As far as emergency equipment goes, a light or flares in the event of a breakdown are of benefit. Also, a cell phone to call for help.</p> <p>Rich</p>
24	<p>What do you mean by "safety items". A vehicle should have tools to change flats, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, safety flares, and other items that are appropriate for the location, for example- blankets in cold weather areas, water in dry areas. These items should be in all vehicles, not just teen driver vehicles.</p>
25	<p>Window smasher & seat belt cutter in case of a water crash.</p>
26	<p><i>SUNGLASSES just for the car (winter glare is just as bad as sunrise and sunset). A cell phone.</i></p>
27	<p>Seat belt cutter--glass breaker---cell phone--AAA-- fire extinguisher---blanket--bag of sand---jumper cables---hope this helps!</p>
28	<p>Gary:</p> <p>In response to the below question:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cell phone 2. Road Flares 3. First aid kit 4. Blankets 5. Non perishable food 6. Water (at least one gallon) 7. Jumper cables 8. Gloves 9. Flashlight 10. Matches or lighter 11. Pocket knife 12. Any needed medication 13. Personal items: toothbrush, toothpaste etc. 14. Portable radio with extra batteries 15. Pen and paper 16. Trash bags <p>Rick</p>
29	<p>A CHARGED cell-phone, a basic first aid kit (that the teen knows how to use) a WORKING flashlight, reflector stand up triangles for traffic control around a disabled vehicle, a CHARGED fire extinguisher and a current Auto Club Card. The cell-phone should be programmed with mom & dad's work, cell and pager numbers. Parents should make sure their children know basic first aid and how to safely set up the reflector triangles.</p>
30	<p>From the highest priority.....knowledge of car jacking, fire extinguisher, helpful tip list in case of a collision and a flashlight.</p>
31	<p>Gary -</p>

	<p>Per your request I received today:</p> <p>Spare Tire, Jack, Lug Wrench (and adapter if required) and the 'first hand' knowledge of their use (i.e.: "Show me...!!") Car/Cell Phone - (some are available as: pay as you call) AAA Phone number! Jumper cables (with PROPER instructions!) Flashlight - keep batteries taped to outside of case until needed - last longer tool kit - phillips head, square head, adj wrench, etc Fix-a-flat (16 oz. Can) Road flares (2) or Reflective Triangle(s)... Glow Sticks(?) Safety matches - stick, in a 'camping screw-cap case' Accident report pencil (with at least one form from YOUR insurance Company) Pen/Pencil/Paper with addresses and PHONE NUMBERS other than 911 - even I can remember their number! Tire pressure gauge Safety vest and Gloves (to change a tire!) Fire extinguisher (16 oz.) ...for small fires - track shoes for large fires Handy wipes Travel first aid kit (Adhesive bandage strips, adhesive bandage large/medium, antiseptic towelette, first aid cream, first aid instruction card, hydrocortisone cream, iodine swab stick, latex gloves, mouth rescue breather) Litter Bag (!) - not necessarily for safety, but have you seen my kid's car? Map(s) of local area Trunk Organizer - (see below paragraph!) Car's OWNER'S MANUAL In Vermont - Duct Tape!!!! Bottled water, MRE's, snack food.... If in a state with BIG snow storms! Window "ice" scraper Roll of paper towels</p> <p>I have 'most' of this in my trunk - I teach Driver Education in South Burlington, Vermont. It all fits in a Rubbermaid container (with a lid on it!!!)</p> <p>Hope this helps, Russell</p>
32	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>Items I recommend parents have in their vehicles include many of the things we have been hearing about for years. Flashlight, can of 'fix o flat' or something similar, blanket, spare tire (you'd be surprised how many cars don't have one), cellular telephone, jack and lug wrench and a first aid kit are some that come to mind.</p> <p>The only thing change I would make regarding teen drivers is the absence of other teens (distractions) until the teen has a couple of years of driving under his/her belt. Distractions account for a large percentage of</p>

	<p>collisions involving teen drivers.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Deputy Mike</p>
33	<p>Gary:</p> <p>I would suggest:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First Aide Kit 2. A disposable blanket 3. Power bars 4. A fluorescent flashlight
34	<p>In my opinion the most important things a parent should have in the car are a cell phone to be used in an emergency only. A blanket in the trunk with a small first aid kit. In the glove box you should have an envelope with emergency contact numbers written on it, and a dollars worth of quarters.</p> <p>Ben</p>
35	<p>Insurance info, contact phone #, basic emergency cards with MD, family members names, pen and paper, a blanket, water, emergency food, spare tire and jack, simple tools, maps, hand wipes, sunglasses, flares, boots or good walking shoes, gloves, jumper cables, tarp, shovel in winter, Instant-flat canister, flash light, portable radio</p>
36	<p>Certainly there are many items that could be helpful for safety sake involving teenage and other drivers. The basics would be simple items such as a flashlight, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, and reflectors to put out in emergency. There are other items that would enhance safety but would be more expensive to install. A GPS locator system installed to enable the vehicles location be determined in case of accidents, hostage situations, or kidnappings. In addition an electronic ignition pad that requires entering your 5 to 7 digit code before the car will crank, This would help insure that someone who is impaired due to illness or drugs not get behind a wheel and drive, as well as reduce the chances of auto theft.</p>
37	<p>Gary</p> <p>There are a number of items which are advisable during winter months/ such as a blanket, matches, candy or other nutrient source, shovel, lights with extra batteries, compass, etc. The most advantageous item if possible is a cell phone, Maps, a pen or pencil with paper, a full tank of gas, a vehicle in good mechanical condition with good tires is also important. The communication from parent to teens of the dangers of carbon monoxide from idling vehicles with defective exhaust etc. And having a regular discussion on the other high-risk behaviors behind the wheel is also important. Thank You</p> <p>Lou</p>
38	<p>The primary safety item would probably be a cell phone, obviously this brings along some baggage also as the teen would probably also use this item while driving, and be distracted. If however the driver would be involved in a crash, be lost, or be put in harms way, it is an immediate lifeline.</p> <p>Other items would be an emergency kit, including a blanket. Any operator of a vehicle should know primary vehicle safety, to pull off the roadway if possible in event of a mechanical failure, to use the hazard lights if this is not possible, and if the vehicle is stopped in an unsafe position, to know to exit the vehicle to avoid possible injury.</p>

	Sgt. Carol
39	<p>Cell-phone, first aid kit, emergency contact list (with driver's license).</p> <p>Contact: Eric</p>
40	<p>Gary:</p> <p>I would suggest parents place the following safety items in their cars if teens are driving or using them:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First-Aid kit. 2. Flares or Folding Orange/Red Road Safety Triangle Reflectors to place at the rear of the vehicle when stalled on the highway or beside the road. 3. Inflatable Aerosol Tire Repair in a Can. 4. Water Bottle for Radiator 5. Jumper Cables for Emergency Starting. 6. Flashlight with Orange Cone Attachment. 7. Orange or Neon Traffic Safety Vest. 8. Safety Sheet Check List of Instructions advising teens, if vehicle stalls on the highway to wear the orange safety vest while setting out emergency equipment such as the reflectors or flares, and to have occupants exit the vehicle and move to a safe area out of the traffic flow if possible. 9. A cell phone programmed with appropriate emergency telephone numbers and instructions to contact the police for assistance, rather than relying on assistance from other motorists. Stranger Danger Safety should be stressed in this set of instructions. <p>I hope these suggestions will help. Thanks for the opportunity to respond to your survey questions.</p> <p>Lt. Smith</p>
41	<p>Parents should have a call police sign in their car and a first aid kit.</p> <p>Respectfully, Cst. Richards</p>
42	<p>Dear Mr. Drenfeld:</p> <p>Thank you for visiting our website.</p> <p>I would suggest parents carry the following safety items in their cars in the event of an emergency:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cell Phone 2. Flares 3. First Aid Kit 4. Jumper Cables 5. AAA Membership Cards 6. Phone Contact (Emergency) List <p>I hope this list can assist you in your report.</p>

	Sincerely, Connecticut State Police
43	<p>Lt. Mike's answer:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Small first aid kit 2. A GOOD spare tire & proper jack & lug nut wrench 3. Blanket 4. Compact tool kit 5. Prepaid gas card 6. Flares 7. Motor oil <p>Sincerely,</p>
44	<p>Gary</p> <p>I'm not sure that I'd make recommendations for teen drivers any different from an adult. The usual safety equipment like flares, first aid kit etc. Would be a must in every car. As teens often don't reason the same as we do it may be advantageous for parents to make sure a teen driver has a cell phone and that they discuss how and who to contact in emergency situations. E.g. If someone's hurt call EMS first before you call home. Maybe have a list of phone numbers in the glove box with preferred towing companies, friends or relatives phone numbers to call. Teens also need to be reminded that in the case of a motor vehicle accident it is important to report it to the police and that leaving the scene of an accident COULD be an offence. A scared teen may leave and go home to seek assistance from a parent and place themselves at risk of being charged.</p> <p>Ron</p>
45	<p>In the interest of safety, the single most important item to have in a car is a cell phone. It can be used to call for help or to report accidents, road hazards, etc.</p> <p>Most people do not know that <u>any</u> cell phone (even one that does not currently have service) will permit calling to 911.</p> <p>I would stress that talking on a cell phone while driving is NOT a good idea and I would urge everyone (particularly inexperienced drivers) to avoid doing so. In most cases, it would be best to find a safe stopping place prior to using the phone.</p> <p>Gail</p>
46	<p>Recommended Safety Items.</p> <p>Cell phone: in the event of car trouble or an emergency I believe cell phones are essential. However it is important that cell phones are not used while operating a motor vehicle.</p> <p>Another item I would like to see in vehicles is a Car Battery Jump Pack. These are the portable car battery's that can start a vehicle when the battery has been drained due to leaving the lights on or using other electronic devices while the car is not running. Dead car battery's are one of the most common problems I have observed when assisting a motorist with a disabled vehicle.</p> <p>I also like the idea of equipping a vehicle with Self Defense Pepper Spray, just in case the need should arise.</p>

	Sergeant Tony
47	<p>The advice we give regarding vehicles is the same for adults as it is for teenage drivers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ensure that the vehicle is well maintained and mechanically fit. 2) Seatbelts should be used, it is the law 3) Cellular phones are a valuable device for anyone in a car. They are the easiest communication method to use to summon help. It avoids having to walk to find a phone in the event of breakdown and for summoning assistance in an accident. Do not use them while driving. 4) Drive defensively and be courteous and considerate to other motorists. This will help keep us all safe and avoids creating "road rage" incidents. 5) Don't leave any personal identification or valuables in the vehicle 6) Anti-theft device is strongly recommended. 7) Always lock the doors of your vehicle, both when driving and when leaving the vehicle 8) Keep garages locked and vehicles inside locked. 9) Don't put address on keys for home or car. 10) In case of trouble, turn on the four way flashers, lock yourself in the car, and put out the Highway Help ("Call Police") sign. Do not wander away from the vehicle, stay with it. 11) If you feel you are being followed by another car do not confront the driver and do not pull into your driveway. Drive to a safe haven, such as a well lit 24 hour variety store, Police Station, Fire Hall, or 24 Hour Gas Station. From that safe well lit location call Police. 12) Ensure that you always have a pen and note pad in the car. This will assist in writing down information in the event of accident or other problem. 13) Always keep a map of the area you are traveling through in your car. 14) When planning to travel on any major highway always ensure that the car has a full tank of gas. 15) A standard Road Side Emergency Kit is always something that should be in the car. 16) First Aid Kit is very useful for inside the vehicle. 17) Bottled water is something to consider having in the car. It is useful for filling the radiator and also for drinking if broken down for extended period. 18) Blanket in trunk 19) Flashlight 20) Full size spare tire with all needed equipment for changing a tire.
48	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) First Aid Kit. 2) Flashlight 3) Jumper Cables 4) Blanket 5) Area Map 6) Can of Fix-a-Flat 7) Cell-phone 8) Emergency Contact Numbers (Home, Police, Neighbors, Hospital etc..) 9) Proof of Insurance, Vehicle Registration 10) Bottled Water

	11) Sun tan Lotion
49	<p>Gary,</p> <p>As a parent of a young driver from the rural Midwest, four items I would suggest be carried in the car are a blanket, a working flashlight or light stick, a can of "fix a flat" and a list of phone numbers of friends and neighbors that would be willing to help in an emergency. These items have been used during a vehicle breakdown by members of my family.</p> <p>Many teens carry cell phones, but most homes in our area use dial-up access to the internet and the phone is often busy all evening with children researching homework online or parents reading online news. It is hard for teens to reach parents at home to ask for help so the backup phone numbers become very important.</p> <p>Laurinda</p>
50	<p>When asking a safety question, we would say, if possible a cell phone even one that has limited service can call 911, the only other needed thing to do is get the car off the road put on your 4 way flashers and wait for help.</p> <p>As far as other items such as flares, flashlight, if outside the car a bright safety vest, I'm sure no teenager would wear it, common sense is the most important thing anyone can have in a safety issue, most things happen when kids think they are in control of their car and that they know it all, that's when bad things happen this is due to them not understanding that other drivers are not thinking in general and or about them.</p> <p>If there is anything else please call Sergeant Andrew</p>
51	<p>In response to your question, I personally think that the following should be carried in vehicles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Cell Phone (if you have one) and/or Change For A Pay Phone A Blanket A Flashlight and Extra Batteries Booster Cables A Can Of Fix A Flat Small Tool Box With Some Basic Hand Tools First Aid Kit Fire Extinguisher Tow Rope Duct Tape Emergency Road Flares/Reflective Markers Fluorescent Safety Vest Empty Gas Can <p>It is also important to check your spare tire for the proper air pressure monthly.</p> <p>Hope this helps,</p> <p>Officer Glen</p>
52	battery operated flares, first aid kit, cold weather gear (i.e.

	blankets, coats, hats), tire repair kit, fire extinguisher,
53	<p>What safety items would you suggest parents carry in their car, especially considering teen drivers? With consideration of teen drivers and their limited driving experience I would suggest the following safety items for the vehicle...</p> <p>*1 "distinct" looking & sealed envelope labeled "Use in Case of Emergency-For Emergency Personnel" in the glove box containing 1 piece of paper with the following items & information: (1) Pre paid phone card (for non or inoperable cell phones) and a small denomination of cash for possible towing/emergency food. Two emergency contact phone numbers (with area code) of family and/or friend and/or work Phone number (with area code) of Auto Insurance-Agent & copy of auto insurance card- for ID theft reasons, black out any personal id #'s i.e. Social security, home address, etc. Phone number (with area code) of Personal Physician & copy of medical/insurance card-for ID theft reasons, black out any personal id #'s i.e. Social security, home address, etc.**Parents should also make the notation "Medical Alert" if there are any medical needs that they or the teen might not be able to answer-i.e. In case of serious auto accident.</p> <p>*1 medium plastic baggie with a few bandaids of different sizes, first aid ointment, "chapstick", sunscreen, babywipes, small scissors/pocketknife and a pack of bubblegum.</p> <p>*1 tool kit of: small hammer, flat & Philips screwdrivers-medium sized, pliers, flashlight (w/o batteries inside, but in the kit), notepad and pencil. These can also be put in one large durable plastic bag.</p> <p>*1-2 bottles of water, 1 blanket, 1 small umbrella (for sun or rain)</p> <p>The last three items can be placed in a small zipped or duffle bag for easy storage in the rear of the vehicle.</p> <p>On behalf of Chief Nate</p>
54	<p>Would suggest either a cell phone or a collection of change to allow for phone calls in case of emergency. Pen or pencil and a small notepad to write information on if needed. If there are any known medical problems, they should have all the information on medications being taken to provide rescue or hospital personnel should they be involved in an accident. Instructions on who to contact in case of an accident as well as what information is needed to be provided both to the police as well as the other parties involved. Contact phone numbers for parents or a responsible adult in their wallet or purse in case of emergency. (There are many times when they are involved in accidents no one has any information of who or how to contact a parent, needed for treatment of injuries) (Insurance information is always helpful and necessary)</p> <p>Replacement fuses for all sizes. For safety after dark Flares or safety triangle to warn other motorists in case of breakdown Warning flag to hang in rear window or on antenna for alerting police for assistance Make sure they are familiar with all controls and how to change a flat tire or (AAA membership)</p>
55	What safety items would you suggest parents carry in their car, especially considering teen

	<p>drivers?</p> <p>Suggestion: First Aid kit with Flash light and Emergency Blanket</p> <p>From: Frank</p>
56	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency notification information (including immediate family with home and work information, and that of a friend or close relative) on a laminated card, or placed in a Ziploc bag (to protect from dampness). 2. A few flares. 3. A safety blanket 4. First Aid Kit
57	<p>Road Flares Blanket Cell phone if possible "Call police" window sign bottled water/energy bars</p>
58	<p>Gary,</p> <p>A good first aid kit, working jack and spare tire (make sure drivers know where they are and how they operate, good quality blanket. For the winter months I would add, some food stuffs, candle. Extra warm clothing.</p> <p>Sgt, William</p>
59	Flashlight, Cell Phone
60	<p>In no real order here is a list of a few things to always keep in your vehicle when traveling.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current Registration and Insurance card 2. Always keep half a tank of gas in you vehicle at all times. 3. Cell phone with a number of a national tow company you trust. 4. Road side emergency kit including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jumper cables (know how to use them) * Flares * Small amount of basic tools * Sign stating that you are having vehicle problems * Poncho or extra jacket * Flash Light * Bottles of water * Tire pressure gauge 5. A First Aid Kit to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Pain Medicine * Any extra prescription medication (such as asthma or diabetic medicine) * Bandages * Famine hygiene products 6. A small amount of money (enough to buy a small amount of gas) 7. Always keep a Pre-paid phone card in the glove box in case you have

	<p>to make any type of phone call. 8. A pen and note paper to write down any emergency information. 9. Hand sanitizer 10. Everything need to change a Flat Tire (know how to use them)</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration,</p> <p>Ofc. Ryan</p>
61	<p>The safety items in a young driver's car may be contingent upon the driver's locale, their mechanical knowledge, and their personal disposition.</p> <p>Many young drivers possess cell phones. Roadside assistance programs / coverage exist with some automobile insurance providers or is available for purchase from private vendors.</p> <p>A first-aid kit, flashlight, reflective triangles, fire extinguisher and cell phone may be all that's necessary for some young drivers.</p> <p>There are a variety of automobile emergency kits available for purchase that range from very modest resources to elaborate items to assist a driver stranded under an array of inclement conditions.</p> <p>A "good" first-aid kit, and perhaps supplies that support or are contingent upon the climate of the area you live in-- everything from bottled water to blankets and dry food goods--may be appropriate. Some drivers don't believe in jumper cables to start a dead battery because it can be a dangerous activity, while other drivers with more technical knowledge are comfortable with such equipment. Many young women may desire to have the spray cans that are pumped into a flat tire that facilitate driving a short distance to safety for replacement.</p> <p>Young drivers may also find a suitable change of clothes including flat shoes for walking helpful to keep in the automobile in case of mechanical breakdown.</p> <p>The important part of such safety items may be how they are stored. It is commonly recommended that whatever items are kept in a car are stored in a plastic lided container. Any supplies kept for such incidences may also need to be maintained or checked regularly.</p> <p>Also, teaching young drivers the most basic automobile maintenance / care to PREVENT breakdowns may also be important.</p> <p>Some advise if breakdowns occur to leave the vehicle (weather permitting) so as not to be a target to predators looking for stranded motorists.</p> <p>In West Virginia we are blessed to have the highway safety patrol. These drivers carry emergency supplies and are trained to provide an array of common services to get drivers mobile again--including the ability to contact law enforcement and other services for assistance beyond their scope.</p>

	<p>Sincerest Thanks~</p> <p>WV Safety Council</p>
62	<p>There should be several things in a car: The number of AAA in case they are stranded, Flares, pad of paper and pen, roll duct tape, copy of registration and insurance card in glove box (I know many differ on this one), and a camera. It's too bad they don't seem to have pocket Polaroid's although I just saw that Kodak has a disposable digital camera. Although expensive that might be useful. There should also be some 'mad' money in case they are stranded also in the love compartment.</p> <p>Hope these ideas are useful.</p> <p>Vince</p>
63	<p>Here is input regarding some suggested safety items.</p> <p>After market mileage and speed tracking system Cell phone with power supply/battery charger Emergency contact numbers Operator medial history or medications taken Flares Blanket First aid kit Map On Star Fix a flat/liquid air compressor Paper/pencil/change Copy of a contract or visual reminder to remember promise not to drink</p> <p>I hope these ideas are helpful.</p> <p>Danielle</p>
64	<p>Not necessarily in order, and not necessarily complete, as I am writing this on the fly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Michigan, a wool/fleece blanket, a bag of sand, and a shovel would be good if stranded in cold weather. 2. A cell phone and a list of contact telephone numbers (in case the teen can't remember or is not conscious) 3. A flashlight/lantern combination. 4. A trouble-shooting guide for common car problems.....perhaps the teen can fix something minor him/herself. 5. A plastic quart of oil with a screw cap. 6. A jug of windshield washer solvent. 7. A jug of water or coolant. 8. Three red reflective triangles to be set on the road way at various distances. 9. A first aid kit with bandages, gauze, etc. 10. The driver and passengers should carry information about special medical needs, if any. 11. A tool kit with standard wrenches (metric and English)

	<p>Many of the items on the list above would be GREAT gifts from grandparents. I used to hate getting clothing from my grandmother for Christmas/birthday, and she always struggled as to what to buy me. The items above are practical, useful, and inexpensive.</p> <p>Norene</p>
65	<p>A cell phone, even if it has no service provider it can still be used to dial "911", a flash light and some basic tools (in the case of a small repair had to be done to the car)</p> <p>Officer T.J.</p>
66	<p>A cell phone is always good to have in the event of an emergency. An emergency medical kit for minor injuries. Compressed air for flat tires and tire gage to ensure proper inflation. A small tool kit for minor repair. The teen may not be able to use the repair kit but a helpful citizen may.</p>
67	<p>We would recommend the normal safety kits that include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Road Flares 2) Flashlight with extra batteries 3) Reflective Vest 4) Jumper or Booster Cables <p>We would also add the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5) Emergency cell phone 6) Directions on how to change a tire 7) Water (for drinking or to put in the radiator depending on the situation) 8) Written instruction for what to do after an accident <p>If you have any questions please e-mail me ...</p> <p>Cpl. Ken</p>
68	<p>Small white towel for distress signal for law enforcement Proper tools for changing a flat tire Properly inflated spare tire Instructions for changing a spare tire Jumper Cables Blanket Flashlight Flares (reflective or incendiary)</p>
69	<p>The safety equipment I would recommend would be a basic first aid kit, flares, a shovel (we are in snow country), extra warm clothing, and a tow strap in case they go in the ditch. We also have some problems with teens that don't have registration, proof of insurance, and registration and they don't know what to do if they are in an accident</p> <p>Assistant Chief A.</p>
70	<p>Perhaps a bright orange reflective "CALL POLICE" sign to place in the back windshield if their car breaks down or carry a cell phone to dial for help; a flashlight; a first aid kit; a blanket, especially during</p>

	<p>cold weather seasons; jumper cables; a spare key in case they lock their key inside the car; a well-inflated spare tire; and/or a portable air compressor for flat tires.</p> <p>Pam</p>
71	<p>1) phone numbers and change. better yet, a cel phone just for the car. 2) warning triangle 3) fire extinguisher 4) basic tool set and teach their teens how to change a flat 5) flashlight 6) AAA or other membership</p>
72	<p>On you question:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flares 2. Cones if room allows 3. Reflective clothing in the event of a breakdown 4. Instructions as to what to do if you breakdown 5. Spare 1 gallon of gas in an appropriate container 6. A small hammer to break the side windows if the ignition is disabled 7. A cell phone 8. A flashlight 9. A blanket 10. Always know exactly where you are, and describe your location as if you were driving an emergency response vehicle to get to the location. 11. Some long life food bars <p>Hope that helps. Best, Gordon</p>
73	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) First aid kit 2) Flashlight 3) one - Reflective Traffic Triangle 4) Blanket 5) Small Fire Extinguisher (chemical, not water) 6) Small tool kit <p>I hope this is of some help to you.</p> <p>Sincerely, Sgt. Rob</p>