

## IT'S GETTING HOT – ARE YOU READY TO RIDE?

**SAN BERNARDINO** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is alerting motorists that a severe heat wave has been forecasted by the National Weather Service. High temperatures can cause problems for the traveling public in many ways. Vehicle breakdowns, tire blowouts and being stuck in traffic in uncomfortable conditions are just a few of the issues that can occur.

Below are some helpful tips that may keep you safe in your travels during the record-breaking temps:

1. Know before you go! Caltrans always tells the traveling public this phrase but by checking traffic conditions you make your drive a safer one for all. Use Caltrans Quick Map at <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>.
2. Make sure your vehicle is in good repair – check fluids, tires, battery and air conditioner and make sure you have a full tank of gas before you get on the highway. Air conditioning is recommended for high temperature driving.
3. Bring **water**, snacks, medications and comfortable clothing and shoes in case you break down or find yourself in long traffic delays on desert highways.
4. Be alert at all times! Watch for other motorists who may have car trouble or become fatigued. Make sure you stay hydrated and stop periodically to cool your engine and keep your passengers comfortable.
5. **NEVER LEAVE A CHILD, ANY PERSON OR ANIMAL IN THE CAR!**
6. Bring a charged cell phone with car charger, flares and flashlight in case you do break down.
7. Share the road! Watch for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorcycles – more people will be out and about.
8. **Never block your visibility** while you are driving with items in the window to block the sun.
9. Watch for tire treads from blow outs. Large tire debris on roads are typical during high temperatures.

Take the time to follow these tips and you will enjoy your travels and keep your cool! Follow us on Twitter @caltrans8.

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