Car Batteries and Freezing Temperatures

AAA Texas

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Daniel Armbruster, AAA Texas spokesperson

Question 1: How common is it for cold weather to wreak havoc on car batteries?

(RUNS- :17)

“One of the top service calls AAA Texas has seen this week during the winter storm is for dead batteries and that’s because cold weather really wreaks havoc on your battery. It drains your battery’s power by at least a third and that makes it much more difficult to start a vehicle when temperatures are below freezing.”

Question 2: What should drivers check before leaving the house.

(RUNS- :34)

“Before leaving you want to stay up to date on the latest weather forecast. You want to make sure you’ve cleaned any ice/snow debris off your vehicle so that you have good visibility and so that debris doesn’t fly onto someone else’s car when you get out on the road. Also we can’t stress enough how important it is to have well maintained tires. Healthy tires are critical to maintaining traction on the roadway. You should check your air pressure and the tread on your tires..and remember that cold air can lower the air pressure in a tire which can make your vehicle harder to control, it takes away from your fuel economy and also it can even lead to a blowout.”

Question 3: Why should drivers have at least half a tank of gas when driving in winter weather?

(RUNS- :15)

“When your driving in winter conditions, you should keep your fuel tank at least half full. This will keep the fuel line in your vehicle from freezing up, which can cause damage. And it will also ensure you have plenty of fuel in case of an emergency.”