

Ensuring vehicles are ready and equipped, not only for everyday use, but for various emergencies and other situations that may arise is essential to becoming R.O.A.D. Ready. Utilize this checklist to ensure your vehicle is prepared and maintained for any situation.

Vehicle Inspections & Maintenance

1

- Check *tires* for proper inflation, adequate tread depth, and signs of wear
- Ensure *brake* systems are responsive and fully functional; listen for unusual noises. Test all *lights* to ensure proper function and visibility
- Inspect the *battery* and cables for corrosion and charge; replace every three years or when signs of weak charge exist
- Ensure the *windshield* is clean and free of cracks, *wipers* are functioning properly, and that *washer fluid* levels are adequate
- Regularly check all *fluid levels*, including oil, coolant, brake, and transmission, and refill/change as needed



Emergency Essentials

2

- Confirm first aid kits are adequately stocked and ready for use
- Assess tools and equipment, such as jumper cables, basic tools, spare tires, tire gauge, jacks, etc. are in proper working condition and accessible
- Keep other emergency equipment onboard, such as flashlights, reflective vests, and fire extinguishers

Seasonal and Specific Needs

3

- *Winter Gear* – Consider items for use in ice/snow removal, tire chains, coats, gloves, and boots
- *Summer Gear* – Stock extra water, sun protection – long sleeves, sunscreen, hats, and portable shade shelters
- *Flood/Rain Events* – Include rain gear, such as boots/waders, and lifejackets and sandbags, especially when working in flood-prone areas



Routine Checks

4

- Ensure items such as the vehicle's registration, insurance card, and emergency contact numbers are in place and maintained in the vehicle
- Conduct regular, documented inspections of vehicles and equipment and ensure any necessary corrective actions are addressed
- Keep vehicles clean and well-fueled, especially in inclement weather situations

Other Considerations

5

- Maintain and test communication devices, such as radios and cell phones; keep chargers in the vehicle
- Establish communication standards, especially when working alone or on call-outs for service; regularly check-in with supervisors, coworkers, or dispatchers to assure safety



LEARN MORE WITH THESE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [TMLIRP Media Library](#): (1) Implementing a Comprehensive Safe Driving Program – Disk #271, Safe Driving: Take Control – Disk #716, and Transit Authorities: Pre-Trip Inspections #263
- [TMLIRP YouTube Channel](#), [Safer in Seconds](#): Mobile Equipment Pre-Trip Inspection, Fleet Vehicle and Driver Safety, and Vehicle and Equipment Dangers
- Texas Department of Insurance: [Safety at Work Free Online Safety Videos](#) and [Occupational Driving Safety Resources](#)