Tires are a vehicle’s first line of defense on the road. Follow these tips to ensure their proper care and maintenance. Safe tires will help you and your passengers ARRIVE ALIVE.

- **Tire Pressure** Check pressure monthly with a tire gauge to ensure proper air pressure. For an accurate reading, check when tires have not been driven for several hours.

- **Tread** Worn tires are more likely to hydroplane. Ensure proper tread depth by regularly inspecting the built-in tread wear indicators on tires, found between the tread grooves. When the tread is worn down to the level of the indicator, it’s time to replace your tires.

- **Tire Rotation and Alignment** Tires should be rotated at least every 5,000 miles for even wear.

- **Damage** Check tires weekly for damage such as bulges, cuts and cracks, including along the sidewalls.

- **Vehicle Load** Overloading vehicles creates excessive heat in tires, which can cause tires to fail. Vehicle passengers count toward the total recommended weight.

- **Spare Tire** Check the spare tire monthly and ensure it is in good condition. Even tires that are not driven often can lose air pressure.

- **Age** Regardless of how well tires have been maintained, never operate a vehicle with tires more than six years old.