

**Southern Pines Police Department**  
**Safety Tips**  
*Vehicle Safety*

In Driver's Education class we learned to take a quick walk around our vehicle before we leave the parking area to check for things that might cause a safety problem. Certainly we look for obstructions in our path, but we also look for any damage, hanging parts, worn or under inflated tires and lights that might not be working properly. When was the last time you checked your vehicle? True, North Carolina General Statutes require a safety inspection annually, but do you look for these problems yourself on a regular basis? Take a few minutes to check your headlights, taillights, brakes and brake lights, turn signals, horn, tires and wipers as well as any other part of the vehicle you can check. Lights burn out a bit more frequently during the colder weather. A burned out bulb can be easily replaced at a nominal cost, which might prevent an accident. With wet and colder weather, not to mention leaves on the roadways, having good tires is a necessity. Check for proper tread and signs of wear and have them replaced if needed. Not sure what to look for? Take your vehicle to a trusted mechanic. He or she can help you determine if any service needs to be done to prepare your vehicle for the winter and help keep you safe. Plan ahead for safe driving!

**For more information or a presentation on this topic, contact the Community Services Coordinator at (910) 692-2732.**