

February 12, 2018

This is Lieutenant Larry Depee, Commander of the California Highway Patrol, Crescent City Area.

Unfortunately, there are times, no matter how diligent you may be at maintaining your car, it could break down. Having an emergency supply kit in the vehicle is one way for you, to be a little better prepared for this day should it happen.

A first-aid kit, flashlight, jumper cables, water, and warm cloths during this time of year may be a few things to consider for your emergency supply kit. I would also highly recommend whenever possible to keep your cell phone fully charged, especially when traveling.

If your car does break down while driving, pull over to the right shoulder as far off the road as you can. Remember, it is generally safer to remain in your vehicle with your seatbelt on, and call for help from there. If you must get out, try to exit from the opposite side of oncoming traffic, and wait as far away from traffic as possible. If available, stand on a sidewalk, behind a guardrail, or up an embankment.

Use your cell phone or a call box to call for help. If you are concerned for your safety, or your vehicle may be creating a hazard to other motorists, call 9-1-1 and we will come out and help you. We have posted information on our Web site to help you in creating a roadside emergency kit. The information includes items you may want to consider for the kit, how to use your emergency equipment, and other helpful tips in case you find yourself broken down on the side of the road.

Please do not hesitate to call the California Highway Patrol if you have any questions about what to do should you break down. Be sure to follow us on Facebook at CHP-Crescent City for the most current news from our office.

Thank you.