

DON'T LET WINTER LEAVE YOU SALTY

A message from Liberty Mutual Insurance

Salt is a necessity on the road to keep us safe in hazardous winter conditions, but it can also wreak havoc on our cars. Luckily, there are a few easy steps you can take before and during winter months to minimize the damage salt can do to your car.

Before the Snow Comes

- In late fall, before the first snow hits, thoroughly wash your car, especially the undercarriage, which is particularly susceptible to rust damage.
- Seal the undercarriage of your vehicle, paying specific attention to the fuel and brake lines, which are particularly dangerous if corrosion causes them to fail.
- Apply a coat of wax and wax sealant to your car to help protect its paint.

Cut Salt Out of Your Winter

- Maintain a clean car by installing rubber mats to prevent any salt that might be tracked into your car from causing rusting through the floor.
- Wash your car regularly, making sure to re wax and reseal every time you have it washed. And give special attention to rust-sensitive spots such as the hood, top and rear deck of your car.
- If you are washing your vehicle at home, you can add a couple tablespoons of baking soda to your cleaning solution to help neutralize and remove salt.

Too Little, Too Late

- If you notice salt damage, take your car to your local auto repair shop to get it fixed professionally or ask about repair products you can try at home.

If you don't live in the Snow Belt, your car may still be at risk for salt damage. Ocean salt in the air can cause the same damage to your car as road salt over time, so be sure to follow these preventative measures to maintain a healthy car wherever you are.

It's all about protecting what's important to you. To learn more about Liberty Mutual Auto and Home Insurance or to get a free, no-obligation quote, call 800-809-9778 or visit www.libertymutual.com/nar

SOURCES:

<http://www.dmv.org/how-to-guides/road-salt.php>