



# DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# NEWS

## OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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The U.S. Department of Transportation Broadcast News Service for July 3rd and 4th contains a safety message by the Secretary of Transportation and the start of a consumer series on tires.

First, a statement by Transportation Secretary Claude Brinegar on highway-waterway safety for the Fourth.

"The Fourth of July holiday -- and the beginning of vacation time -- deserves a note of special caution.

"All drivers please obey traffic laws - drive defensively - use your safety belts - and encourage your passengers to use their's. Also, slow down - slow speeds save lives and gasoline. Commercial drivers - be aware that the highways will be more crowded and most drivers are less experienced than you are. For those driving or towing recreational vehicles - make sure everything is in safe working order and use extra caution.

"Our waterways will also be crowded and special care should be taken to follow safe boating rules. Make sure your equipment is in good shape and that you have lifesaving devices for all on board.

"Make this holiday -- and the summer beyond -- safe and happy for everyone."

Next, the first of a three part series of consumer reports on car tires.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has a new proposal designed to help motorists buy the best possible tires for their cars. Ann Uccello, Director of the Office of Consumer Affairs, comments:

"There's a great deal of confusion in this field; I know that almost anyone who buys tires can attest to that. The proposed Consumer Information Regulation would require tire manufacturers to grade and label their products as far as treadwear, traction and high speed performance.

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"This National Highway Traffic Safety Administration proposal, which is in conformance with President Nixon's Consumer Program, will establish a quality grading system with uniform tests by which car tires can be measured. I do want to stress that comment is needed from both the consumer and industry alike. As a result, a better regulation will emerge. Those comments should be in the hands of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration by October 5th."

Tomorrow, another in this series on uniform tire quality grading.  
(Part ~~two~~ of the series will be available Thursday, July 5th.)

This has been the Transportation News Report.

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