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SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY REGION NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

REAL ID Extended to May 7, 2025

The Department of Homeland Security extended the REAL ID deadline to May 7, 2025. The REAL ID Act established minimum security standards for state-issued driver's licenses and identification cards and prohibits Federal agencies from accepting for official purposes licenses and identification cards from states that do not meet these standards. Beginning May 7, 2025, every state and territory resident will need to present a REAL ID compliant license/ID, or another acceptable form of ID for boarding commercial aircraft, accessing Federal facilities and entering nuclear plants. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) considers a current passport or military ID acceptable identification for boarding an aircraft. For more information on Pennsylvania's REAL ID compliant license, visit dmv.pa.gov/REALID/Pages/default.aspx.

Get Peace of Mind with Automatic Renewal

AAA Auto Pay is the convenient way to pay your membership dues! There are no checks to write, no stamps to buy, no late payments and no risk of having your membership lapse. Choose AAA Auto Pay and your membership dues will be automatically charged to your credit card, debit card, or checking account each year. When you enroll using your credit or debit card, your account will be charged seven business days prior to the membership expiration date. Enroll by using your checking account and your account will be charged one day in advance of the expiration date. To learn more or enroll in AAA's Auto Pay Program, call 1-800-441-5008 or visit your local AAA branch office. To sign up online, log in to your membership account at AAA.com and select "Enroll" in the Bill.

AAA Members Save More at Shell

The Fuel Rewards® Program is all about one thing: providing real, immediate savings on something you use all the time — fuel. AAA Members get automatic Gold Status and save 30¢/gal on their first fill-up at Shell when they join the Fuel Rewards® program by 12/31/23 and make their first transaction within 30/days of joining. After that, save 5¢/gal every day on each individual fill-up of up to 20 gallons from participating Shell stations.

Find Lower Gas Prices with Auto Club app

Eager to find the lowest gas prices in your location? AAA's Auto Club app can help you save time and money by comparing prices of the nearest gas stations. The Auto Club app also goes beyond finding the lowest fuel prices. Members can use it to request roadside assistance, book travel reservations for flight, car rental, hotel, or cruise, and much more. To get the app, text APP10 to 86792 and you will receive a link to download it.

United States Postal Service

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Arizona canyons grand in different ways

Adventures permeate from wondrous destinations

The Grand Canyon is a pit of seemingly bottomless beauty. It's a masterful work of ecological art that needed millions of years to be completed.

It's nearly 277 miles long and 18 miles wide and is more than a mile deep. Unparalleled measurables, no doubt, and it can overwhelm sightseers and naturalists.

The Grand Canyon epitomizes Arizona. It symbolizes greatness and could lead you to believe it's the state's only massive gorge.

That's hardly the case.

Thirty-two canyons can be found in Arizona. They range in size and depth, and many are worth a visit. Other popular ones include Aravaipa Canyon, Madera Canyon, Oak Creek Canyon, Paria Canyon and Salt Lake Canyon.

Aravaipa Canyon hugs the northwest border of the Galiuro Mountain Range in southern Arizona and is 11 miles in length. Backpackers and hikers revel in its topography. Hike through Aravaipa Creek, a seasonal home to hundreds of bird species. Explore side canyons and witness desert wildlife. See bighorn sheep, coyote, coatimundi, Gila monsters and javelina.

Twenty-five miles southeast of



GORGE-OUS – Salt River Canyon comprises more than 32,000 acres of Tonto National Forest. *Image: Teresa L. Jackson. Adobe Stock.*

Tucson rests Madera Canyon – a part of the Coronado National Forest. Campsites, picnic areas and miles of hiking trails grab your attention. Desert surroundings add to the ambiance, making it a jewel.

Northern Arizona houses Oak Creek Canyon – a 12-mile-long gorge that spans from Flagstaff to Sedona and

is considered one of the state's most scenic. It offers many activities, including hiking, backpacking and fishing. It ranges in width from 0.8 to 2.5 miles and reaches depths from 800 to 2,000 feet. Its association with Sedona makes it second to the Grand Canyon in most popular tourist destinations in the state.

Paria Canyon is nestled in Northern Arizona. Known as a premier hiking and backpacking destination, Paria Canyon is a 112,500-acre wilderness area that hugs Utah's southern border. The Wave is a massive sandstone rock formation and the canyon's most-visited destination. White House Ruins and Lee's Ferry are popular backpacking routes that pass through Buckskin Gulch – the longest slot canyon in the world. Hikers should expect to be wet anywhere from ankle deep to waist high and do research before hiking the canyon. Flash flooding is common.

Salt River Canyon's wilderness, meanwhile, is comprised of nearly 32,100 acres in the Tonto National Forest, east of the Phoenix Metro Area. Its elevations range from 2,200 feet at the canyon's lower end to 4,200 feet. The hiking trails aren't maintained and most exploration happens by raft or kayak during Spring River-running season. The upper Salt River can be run from March through May, with rapids that range from Class II to IV. Permits are required when running the river between March 1 and May 15.

This is a snapshot of what Arizona offers and proof that not everything has to be grand to be considered great.

Staying in right lane not always simple

'Wrong-way' driving growing concern, leads to grave results

Moving in the wrong direction can lead to grave results – especially if you are behind the wheel of your vehicle.

Fatal, wrong-way crashes on our nation's highways have become a persistent and devastating threat that are making roadways less safe. A recent data analysis from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found there are approximately 500 deaths per year as the result of crashes on divided highways.

Researchers found that the odds of being a wrong-way driver increased with alcohol impairment, older age and driving without a passenger.

"Wrong-way crashes on divided highways are often fatal as they are typically head-on collisions," said Dr. David Yang, executive director of the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety.

AAA works with National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and other traffic-safety organizations to educate drivers on the deadly impact of wrong-way driving. AAA and NTSB urge state-transportation agencies to adopt driver-based countermeasures that address these factors, such as alcohol-ignition interlocks, strengthened deterrence strategies like sobriety checkpoints, driver-refresher courses for older



LOSING DIRECTION – Driving drunk and senior drivers are most likely to drive their vehicles in the wrong lanes on highways. *Image: Brandon Klein. Adobe Stock.*

adults and the installation of more visible signs and signals.

Researchers examined eight factors related to these types of crashes, with these three standing out: alcohol impairment, older age and driving without a passenger. Six in 10 wrong-way crashes involved an alcohol-impaired driver. Those with blood-alcohol concentrations more than the legal limit of .08 were significantly more likely to be wrong-way drivers than non-alcohol-

impaired drivers involved in the same crashes.

"Alcohol impairment is, by far, the **single most** significant factor in the majority of wrong-way driving crashes, which unfortunately has not changed since the NTSB issued its 'Wrong-Way Driving' special investigation in 2012," said NTSB Director of the Office of Highway Safety Dr. Rob Molloy. "The important work done by AAA shows that we need to redouble our efforts to address this

safety hazard."

An alcohol-ignition-interlock device prevents a vehicle from starting until the driver provides a breath sample that registers below a preset limit, usually a BAC of .02.

The data also indicates that drivers older than 70 are more at risk of driving in the wrong direction than their younger counterparts. Previous Foundation research from the AAA Longitudinal Research on Aging Drivers (LongROAD) project found that drivers aged 75-79 spent less time on the road and drove fewer miles per trip than younger age groups. Yet, this same age group significantly represents wrong-way crashes.

Nearly 87% of wrong-way drivers were traveling alone, leading to the belief that the presence of a passenger might offer protection. Passengers could alert drivers that they are entering a one-way road, preventing them from entering the highway in the wrong direction, or alerting them to the error, helping the driver take corrective action before a crash occurs.

AAA reminds drivers to use common sense before getting behind the wheel. If you are driving, don't drink. If you are drinking, don't drive. And always remain alert.

Simple requests that too often are taken for granted.

AAA EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE RULES

AAA's 24-hour Emergency Road Service means there is always a person to call in case of an automotive emergency. We'll get you back on the road as quickly as possible with a dedicated network of more than 13,000 Emergency Road Service facilities across the U.S.A. and Canada.

AAA assistance includes changing a flat tire, jumping a dead battery or mobile battery testing and replacement service, delivering emergency gasoline or fuel, lockout and key service, or when all else fails, towing your car. We'll provide the assistance to help you get behind the wheel again as quickly as possible.

AAA Emergency Road Service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and is designed to assist you in an emergency when your vehicle, or the vehicle in which you are a passenger, becomes disabled. Your membership coverage applies only to those emergency and towing services listed in this guide. AAA coverage entitles each AAA member in the Primary Member's household up to 4 calls per membership year. After 4 calls, members will be charged for service.

Your AAA Membership Card is Your Key to Service

To receive emergency road service, you must present your AAA membership card or dues receipt and a matching driver's license, or other state or federally issued photo identification to the independent-service provider when the service vehicle arrives. Your identification may be scanned or swiped to verify your identity and authenticity of identification.

Service is available only to the person named on the membership card, who is the driver of or a passenger in the vehicle at the time of the vehicle disablement. AAA memberships are not transferable, and membership service is not provided to nonmembers. Other members of your household who want emergency road service must have their own membership cards, in their own names, to obtain service.

Unless a valid AAA membership card and matching valid driver's license or other state or federally issued photo identification are presented at the time of service, you will be required to pay for the service provided at commercial rates. A non-refundable service fee applies each time you use roadside assistance for the first three days of your membership. See AAA.com/service fee for fee amount.

To Obtain Service

AAA is only a phone call or click away! In the case of an automotive emergency, call the AAA number listed on your AAA membership card. You'll be connected to our 24-hour dispatch center or the AAA club in the area from where you are calling. You can also request emergency-road service online at AAA.com, or via the Auto Club App, which can be downloaded free of charge. To help speed our response, be prepared to:

- Provide your name, membership number and your club code listed on your membership card.
- Give the exact location of your disabled vehicle and the nature of the trouble.
- Provide the vehicle's year, make, color and license plate number.
- If possible, provide a telephone number where you can be reached.

Allowable Roadside Assistance Calls

Each AAA cardholder is entitled to four (4) emergency-road service calls or reimbursements for personal, non-commercial use per membership year at no charge, provided the calls meet the conditions described in this guide. There will be a service charge for each additional service call after the fourth call or reimbursement. AAA may require immediate payment of a service charge by credit or debit card for Classic benefit level service before providing emergency-road service on the fifth or subsequent service request in a membership year.

Additional charges for emergency-road service beyond the Classic benefit level, such as towing beyond 3 miles, the cost of emergency fuel and excess vehicle locksmith services, will be payable by the member at the time of service. If the member is unable to provide a valid credit or debit card to AAA at the time-of-service request or the charge is not approved by the credit or debit card company, AAA may send service on a C.O.D. basis, meaning all charges payable by the member will be paid directly to the independent-service provider at the time of service. If a cardholder has an unpaid service-charge balance and contacts AAA for emergency road service, AAA may require immediate payment of both the unpaid balance and the service charge for the current service call before providing service. The nonpayment of a service charge may result in cancellation of membership.

SERVICE INCLUSIONS

damage to the vehicle or servicing equipment.

Towing service is only provided for a covered vehicle disablement. Service may not be used as a substitute for regular maintenance necessary to keep a vehicle in good operating condition. AAA cannot render service repeatedly to a vehicle in need of repair. Service is intended for personal, non-commercial use, and only provided for a covered vehicle disablement. A covered vehicle disablement is a sudden or unexpected mechanical, electrical, or other failure of a motor vehicle that places the vehicle in an unsafe or undrivable condition. An individual's AAA membership may not be used by a business or organization to provide roadside assistance service for its customers, employees or vehicles, including, but not limited to taxicabs, limousines, shuttles and other commercial vehicles for hire.

The following services are not provided under the membership benefit:

- Servicing or extrication of vehicles on inaccessible streets, back roads, driveways, parking lots or alleys that become snowbound or flooded.
 - Shoveling snow from around a vehicle or cleaning a road or driveway.
 - Service to a vehicle located in an area not regularly traveled by private-passenger vehicles (such as beach, open field, creek bed, private logging or forest service road).
 - Towing to or from auto dismantlers, salvage yards, repair facility to repair facility or from one storage location to another.
 - Towing for the purpose of transporting vehicles due to a purchase, sale, renovation, auction transaction, car show exhibition, charitable donation, relocation or any other similar situation.
 - Service to a vehicle that is loaded, altered or constructed in such a way as to cause damage or create a hazard while being serviced.
 - Charges related to impound or stolen-vehicle recovery, towing or storage.
 - Tire rotation, the installation or removal of snow tires or tire chains.
 - Cost of vehicle locksmith services beyond what is necessary to place the vehicle in a condition to be safely driven (such as duplicating keys, nonemergency lock repairs and re-keying of vehicle locks).
 - Service in situations where the membership card and matching valid driver's license or other state or federally issued photo identification is not provided to the service driver. You must provide a driver's license for identification if you are the driver.
 - Use of two or more roadside-assistance service calls to extend the member tow-mileage benefit for the same breakdown.
 - AAA Plus® members will be responsible for any additional mileage charges beyond 100 driving miles of towing per roadside-assistance call. AAA Premier® members will be responsible for any additional mileage charges beyond 200 driving miles of towing on one roadside-assistance service call per AAA Premier® household per membership year and beyond 100 driving miles of towing on the remaining allowable roadside-assistance service calls.
 - Towing, extrication/winch and tire-change service for RVs and towing and extrication and winching services for motorcycles, unless the member has optional AAA Plus RV® or AAA Premier RV® coverage.
 - AAA Plus RV® and AAA Premier RV® members are entitled up to \$500 per allowable service call, and up to \$1,000 total per household per membership year on allowable RV/ Motorcycle service calls. Members will be responsible for all other costs of roadside service above that amount.
 - AAA Plus®, AAA Premier®, AAA Plus RV® and AAA Premier RV® emergency-road service is available 7 calendar days after purchase date if paid in full.
 - Without limiting any other rights or remedies it may have, AAA may seek reimbursement from a member or associate for roadside-assistance services fraudulently or wrongfully obtained by the member or associate. Primary members are responsible for the conduct and the service demands of their associates.
- Extended Roadside Assistance services for AAA Plus®, AAA Plus® RV, AAA Premier® or AAA Premier® RV benefit levels, where available, and certain AAA Premier benefits are effective seven (7) calendar days after processing, and receipt of the full payment due.

Special Assistance

When your vehicle cannot be made operable upon providing the services listed in this guide, AAA will assist you in finding the nearest open place of repair. If a repair facility cannot be located, we will assist you in obtaining lodging or alternate transportation, which will be at your expense.

Mechanical First Aid

The AAA emergency service representative will make minor mechanical repairs or adjustments to place a vehicle in safe-driving condition. If needed and available, parts and the labor cost to install them are to be paid by the member. If the vehicle cannot be put into condition to proceed under its own power, towing service, as described in Towing Services, will be provided.

Flat Tire Service

If the vehicle's spare tire is inflated and serviceable, it will be installed in place of the vehicle's flat tire. If not, towing provisions will apply.

AAA Battery Service

AAA Battery Service is a mobile battery testing and replacement service. The AAA Battery Service technician will test and assess the vehicle's battery and electrical system. If the existing battery fails the test and the member would like to have the battery replaced, the member can purchase a AAA battery. The technician will install a new battery, if available, that meets or exceeds the vehicle's original specifications. Each AAA Premium battery is backed by a limited warranty that includes a 3-year free replacement guarantee. AAA Battery Service is generally provided by independent-service providers and is only available in select areas, during select hours. Batteries are available for most makes and models. Battery prices vary depending on vehicle make and model. Copies of the warranties are available for inspection from the technician at any time upon request. Membership emergency road service terms and conditions apply.

Fuel Delivery Service

An emergency supply of fuel will be delivered to a member's disabled vehicle enabling the member to reach the nearest service station. The member will be charged for the fuel at current pump prices. Specific quantities, brand, or octane ratings cannot be promised, nor can availability.

AAA Plus provides sufficient free emergency fuel to enable you to reach the nearest service station, when your vehicle runs out of fuel.

Towing Services

When your vehicle cannot be safely driven after attempting any of the listed emergency services, your vehicle will be towed (once per breakdown) to the facility rendering the service, or up to 3 miles in any direction from the point of disablement at no additional charge. Charges for service that exceed the benefits listed will be at the prevailing hourly or mileage rate for the region where service is provided. In instances when your vehicle becomes disabled while towing a lightduty trailer, service will be provided for the trailer. You will be required to pay for trailer towing. All vehicles must be free of snow and ice prior to towing.

AAA Plus provides up to 100 miles of free towing, in any direction from the point of disablement, to the repair facility of your choice.

AAA Premier increases one tow to a maximum 200 miles plus a free one-day rental car.

Extrication/Winch

Your vehicle will be pulled out of a ditch by being extricated/winch when it can be safely reached from a normally traveled or established thoroughfare (driveways must be cleared of snow or ice). If special equipment, additional service personnel or vehicles are required, the associated costs will be at your expense.

AAA Plus provides a second truck and second driver, for up to one hour, if your situation requires it.

Emergency Check Acceptance

Club and contract facilities will accept payment by check, credit or debit card for payment of emergency-road service charges up to \$250 per occurrence.

Lockout Service

If your keys are locked inside the vehicle, services will be sent to gain entrance. If your keys are lost, broken, or the service provider cannot gain entrance to your vehicle, locksmith services up to \$60, or if a AAA locksmith is not available, reimbursement for locksmith service up to \$60, will be provided. In cases where the vehicle cannot be made operable, towing services will be provided according to our towing provision.

AAA Plus provides up to a total of \$100 in parts and labor to gain entry or make vehicle operable.

AAA Premier provides up to \$150 for Vehicle Locksmith, \$100 Home Lockout Service reimbursement.

Service Limitations

Emergency-road service will be limited to that which can be provided with equipment ordinarily used by the independent-service provider serving the area. Service will not be provided when the disabled vehicle cannot be safely reached or serviced without

Eligible Vehicles

Service applies to 4-wheeled motor-driven vehicles of the passenger, pleasure or recreational type that were in operation immediately prior to disablement - provided that services can be safely delivered. If specific towing equipment is requested, but not required to safely transport the vehicle, the associated cost will be at your expense.

Automobiles, pickup trucks, sport utility vehicles, vans and minivans are eligible for those services which can be safely performed with equipment available from the independent-service provider, including slings, wheel-lift devices, car carriers (flatbeds) and dolly wheels. Dual-wheel unloaded pickup trucks are eligible for all services except tire services.

Motorcycle coverage is available with optional AAA Plus RV® coverage. Motorcycles (as defined by registration) must be licensed for highway use.

Recreational Vehicles (RVs) are eligible for service, with the exception of towing, extrication/winch and tire-change service. Towing, extrication/winch and tire service for RVs is available with optional AAA Plus RV® and AAA Premier RV® coverage. RVs include dual-wheel motorhomes, camper vans and cabover campers, motorcycles, and recreational trailers including camping trailers, fifth-wheel trailers and empty horse trailers. Boat trailers, personal watercraft trailers and ATV trailers must be either empty or transporting recreational vehicles or equipment. Utility trailers must be carrying recreational equipment (for non-commercial use). Commercial trailers are excluded. Service does not include transportation of horses.

Unable to Locate the Vehicle

If a service provider does not appear within the time stated by the AAA customer service representative, please call AAA back to let us know. The service provider may not have been able to locate your vehicle.

Cancel Unnecessary Calls

If the requested service is no longer needed and the AAA service representative has not yet arrived, please call AAA immediately, as each service call is charged against the member's record.

Weather Emergencies

During severe weather conditions, AAA reserves the right to suspend service temporarily if the vehicle is already in a place of safety, such as a private or public garage, driveway, etc. AAA will provide service to the vehicle after the weather emergency is over.

Alternate Service

If you have followed the procedure outlined to obtain emergency-road service, and AAA service is not available, you may obtain your own service, pay for it and submit the original receipt to your AAA club within 60 days. Reimbursement will be based on the prevailing commercial rate for the region where the vehicle was disabled. In instances where the AAA contractor access is legally restricted (toll roads, limited-access highways), reimbursement will be provided for all covered services. If AAA service was available, but not requested, reimbursement may be limited to the amount the club would normally have paid for the covered service.

No reimbursements will be made by AAA on charges incurred when a member's vehicle is removed from the street or under direction of the police because of illegal parking, traffic violations, or other illegal activities. Storage charges and cleanup fees from the scene of a traffic accident are also not eligible for reimbursement.

Members having more than 4 road-service calls during their membership year are not eligible for alternate service reimbursement.

Member's Risk

Before servicing any vehicle when there is a possibility of damage to the vehicle or other property as a result of the service, a service representative will inform the member that the member must assume the risk of damage. Any such circumstances should be fully recorded on a release form.

While AAA-affiliated service providers are selected to provide the best emergency-road service to our members, such providers are independent contractors and are not agents of AAA. AAA assumes no responsibility for any injuries to persons or property, including damage to the member's vehicle, as a result of an emergency-road service request.

AAA will make every reasonable effort to work out a settlement between a member and an affiliated service provider of the member's claim for damages resulting from unsatisfactory emergency road service. Please contact AAA as soon as possible, and no longer than 10 days of the incident, and prior to repairs so that a prompt investigation can be made while all facts are available.

Tech company creates innovative lenses

Improving drivers' optics should lessen odds of accidents

Artificial intelligence is sneaking its way into most aspects of our lives. Whether it's a good thing remains to be seen.

A technology company is using AI to help make driving safer. Shamir Optical Industry recently launched an innovative product. Its Shamir Driver Intelligence lenses are designed to transform operating a vehicle by making it safer, more comfortable and visually clear.

Its new lens development began with Shamir's decision to address the issue of visual challenges that confront drivers on roadways, such as sudden changes in conditions, varying light intensities from the sun, streetlamps or oncoming headlights, and the need to keep switching focus from the close vehicle interior to the distant road.

Its research showed one in five drivers suffer from eye fatigue and 25% have trouble focusing quickly on varying distances. This modern technology introduces disturbances to drivers, such as in-car, digital-screen displays and bright LED lights.

The lenses' designs are based on extensive measurements of head movements and eye-tracking, providing comprehensive understanding and prediction of a driver's visual behavior. By applying elements of AI, Shamir



SEEING IS BELIEVING – Shamir Driver Intelligence glasses are meant to make driving safer all hours of the day. *Image: NewsPress USA.*

invented a lens solution ideally suited to all types of drivers.

Shamir Driver Intelligence comes as a set of two pairs of glasses, available as single or progressive vision – “sun” for daylight and “moon” for nighttime driving to provide uncompromised-optimal vision for all conditions.

The “sun” lens incorporates an

advanced filter that enhances color perception, making colors and objects appear more vivid, similar to the effects of Formula F1 racing helmet visors. The clear “moon” lens is designed for conditions of low-light and nighttime driving, with visual age-based myopic shift for improved low-light sharpness. It reduces visual noise, eye fatigue and

improves drivers' reaction times for safer performance.

“The rich insight and extensive data received from professional drivers under conditions of extreme challenges have enriched our big data set and have been invaluable in the development of the new driving-dedicated performance lens,” said Shamir CEO Yagen Moshe. “Going the extra mile with this valuable partnership, Shamir exercises its ability to see through the eyes of its consumers, to study the environment, the activities and needs of the users, and then to apply the most advanced technologies, including elements of AI to maximize the user experience. The lens solution we have developed upgrades the driving experience to premium, allowing drivers (professional as well as passionate and everyday drivers) to enjoy clarity of vision, whether of the road ahead or of the image in their mirrors, bringing them safely to their destination.”

Shamir Driver Intelligence is available throughout the Europe, the Asian Pacific and North America. Visit Shamir.com for more information about the product.

Seeing the road ahead is getting easier, thanks to AI. Drivers can put on their shades and lessen the odds of getting into an accident.