

Is your spare tire a time bomb?

by **Gerry Frank**

Twenty nine million dollars. That's how much a jury awarded a Texas woman who is confined to a wheelchair because her tires were so old they were no longer safe. A new study uncovers the hidden threat that almost no one—not even automotive professionals—were aware of.



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Aged tires can be a bigger threat than even normally worn tires can be. As a tire ages, the likelihood of the rubber compounds letting go and allowing the steel belts to suddenly shred the tire becomes more and more

possible. Everyone knows to have their tires periodically checked, but what about the spare tire? So often they sit for years and years, unused, until needed, and when they are finally placed on a car, it can have disastrous consequences.

According to the federal government, tread separation lead directly to two deaths, last year, and twelve injuries. There were also 167 other examples where the tires failed. With such a simple fix, why would anyone take the chance?

Auto Repair Technology, in Brook Park,

and *Royal Car Care and Tire Center*, in Brunswick, are offering to inspect the date code on any tire to see if it should be replaced. Many automotive professionals are unaware that tires even have a date of manufacture code or where to find it, which compounds this safety issue even further.”

Drivers wishing to receive the free tire checkup should stop in at *Auto Repair Technology*, 14671 Snow Road in Brookpark, 216-898-5800 or *Royal Car Care and Tire Center*, 1404 Pearl Road in Brunswick, 330-220-5500. Hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00 - 5:30.

Gerry Frank is an A.S.E Certified Master Technician.



***Auto Repair Technology* in Brook Park will inspect your spare tire for free.**