

A Special Supplement to

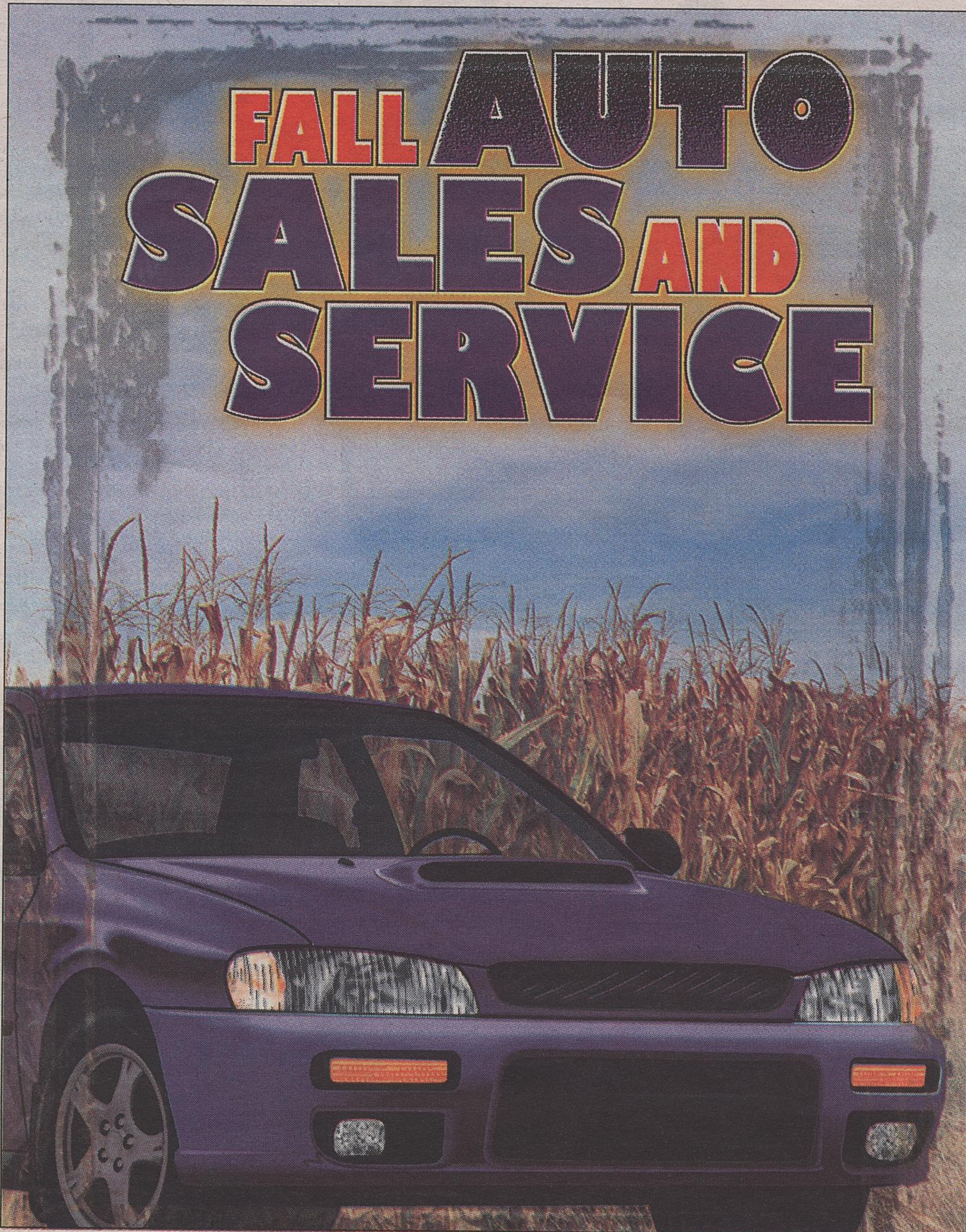
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WHEELS

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Use your car's headlights and indicators



If you're looking to shed a little light on how to reduce the risk of car accidents, just try, well, shedding a little light.

- Using your headlights for daytime driving isn't redundant, it's a proven safety measure. Studies have shown that no matter the weather or time of day, even if it's sunny and noon, keeping the headlights on cuts down on accident possibilities.

- Just as it does at night, having headlights on during the day improves your visibility. You can see other cars sooner, and your car also becomes more conspicuous.

We know that the earlier drivers can detect each other on the road, and estimate their speeds and distance, the less likely they'll be to collide with each other. Headlights, at any time, improves detection.

- Daytime headlight use has been shown to be particularly helpful in preventing head-on collisions and those from the side. Studies in Scandinavia show that daytime running lights (DRLs) reduce certain kinds of crashes by as much as 40 percent.

- Since 1989 Canada has required all new vehicles manufactured or imported here to be fitted with DRL systems. The lights go on automatically when you turn on the ignition. If your vehicle isn't equipped with DRLs, you can simply put on your low-beams every time you start the car. Soon it will be just as much of a habit as buckling up your seatbelt.

- Your headlights aren't the only lights you should pay attention to on your car. Remember your friends the flickers. Turn indicators are not optional equipment, despite the fact that many people rarely use them.

- Using your turn indicators isn't just a matter of courtesy but of safety- you're signaling your intentions not just to the car behind you but also to the one approaching.

- To be effective, you should turn on your signals well before you actually get to the point where you're turning. It's incredibly annoying to the vehicle behind you (and unsafe) to signal while you're at a corner and already beginning your turn.

- If one of your indicator lights is burned out or broken, get it replaced as soon as you can.

—Insurance Bureau Of Canada

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