



Keeping Costs Low by Making Payments on Time

South Carolina Farm Bureau Insurance customers often ask our agents, company officials, and maybe each other how to save money on car insurance. For our member-policyholders, saving money can be as easy as paying premiums on time. Here's why.

First, customers who pay their premiums by the due date cause less expense. In order to comply with numerous laws and policy provisions, insurance companies must notify various entities - such as a lienholder or the South Carolina Department of Public Safety - when a policy cancels due to non-payment of premium. If a member-policyholder makes it a practice to pay by the due date, then the time, effort, and expense associated with those notices are never incurred.

Second, if the premium is paid late and the policy lapses and then is reinstated, there are additional costs to send the new policy information to the insured, lien-holder, and others. Besides running the risk of being without valuable coverage, a policyholder who lets a policy lapse and then reinstates it adds to the Company's total cost of doing business. This eventually is reflected in the rates charged to all member-policyholders.

Several years ago, state law required that insurers charge more when drivers had operated a vehicle for more than 30 days without insurance. While that law has been repealed, South Caro-



lina Farm Bureau Insurance (SCFBI) has a rating rule that reflects the risk presented by drivers who are without coverage for more than 30 days. If an auto insurance policy lapses (for non-payment of the premium due), and a request is made for reinstatement after 30 days, then coverage may be reinstated only in Southern Farm Bureau Casualty at a 45% higher rate. This rating rule is supported by statistics which demonstrate that people who are willing to drive without insurance, even for a short period of time, are riskier drivers and are involved in more accidents than those who pay their bills on time.

We all know bills are not fun to pay, and car insurance premiums are no different. We do try to make it as convenient as possible for you to be able to pay your renewal premium by the due date. Renewal notices are mailed 45 days in advance of the renewal date, and a follow-up notice is mailed 15 days before the due date. In the event of a postal delay, the policy grace period is 15 days. But after that 15 days, if the premium due is not received, then coverage ends and reinstatement penalties begin to apply.

The penalties can become significant. So to save on your premium and to always have the provided coverage, pay on or before the due date.

We offer six-month and annual auto policies for both single car and multi-car needs. We also offer a payment plan that features two payments (for semi-annual policies) or four payments (on annual policies only). Later this year, we will announce premium payment by credit card. Watch for this information in a future issue of [Helping You.](#)

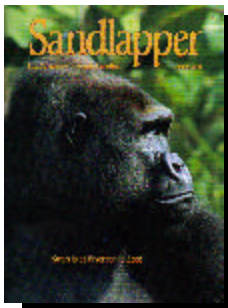


Membership Is the Key to Great Benefits!

Sandlapper Society Added to Farm Bureau Member Benefits

Farm Bureau members can now enjoy *Sandlapper* magazine (the magazine of South Carolina) for an annual subscription of **just \$20.00—a 20% savings!**

Membership in Sandlapper Society, however, means more than just a magazine subscription. Members are also entitled to discounts at state attractions, twenty bed and breakfasts within South Carolina, *Sandlapper Cooks* cook book, and other benefits.



For more information about becoming a member, call the Sandlapper Society, Inc. at (803) 359-9954 or place an order from their web site @ www.sandlapper.org. Be sure to indicate when you join that you are a Farm Bureau member to receive the special discounted rate.

Please visit our web site at
www.scfbins.com

Helping YOU...

with

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South Carolina Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company



*Helping You Is What
We Do Best.*

