



WINTER DRIVING SAFTY TIPS

Snow and ice can pose challenges for even the most experienced driver. Here's a brief refresher course:

- Remove snow from the entire car, not just the windows. This ensures snow doesn't blow onto your windshield or the windshields of other drivers. Make sure your mirrors are clean as well, and that all lights are visible.
- Slow down and allow extra time to reach your destination.
- Avoid letting your gas tank run low.
- Stay at least 200 feet behind maintenance vehicles and plows, and avoid cutting in front of other vehicles—especially large vehicles, which may be unable to stop in time.
- Don't use cruise control in wet or freezing conditions.
- With anti-lock brakes, apply constant, firm pressure to the pedal. Never pump the brakes.
- Watch carefully for "black ice." If the road looks slick, it probably is. This is especially true with one of winter's worst hazards: "black ice." Also called "glare ice," this is nearly transparent ice that often looks like a harmless puddle or is overlooked entirely. Test the traction with a smooth brake application or slight turn of the wheel.
- If you get stuck in snow, straighten the wheel and accelerate slowly. Scatter sand or cat litter under the drive wheels if necessary.
- If your tires lose traction on snow or ice, continue to look and steer in the direction you want to go. If the drive wheels start to spin or slide while going up a hill, ease off the accelerator slightly and then gently resume