



## TIP OF THE WEEK

### Winter Driving Tips

Winter weather is just on the horizon and now is the time to be prepared for the challenge of winter driving. Here are some simple tips to keep yourself safe and ready on the road this winter.

Extra care is required to ensure safety for everyone. Weather conditions can be unpredictable and place extra stress on driver(s) and vehicle(s). Always adjust your driving speed to road conditions and to the limitations of your vehicle. Allow extra travel time in bad weather.

Slow down and stay alert. Maintain a safe following distance. It will take longer to stop your vehicle in slippery conditions.

Maintain good visibility. Clear all snow and ice off your windows, roof, lights and mirrors. Wait for the fog or frost to clear from all windows before driving. See and be seen.

Accelerate and brake slowly. When starting from a stop on slick roads, start slowly and accelerate gradually to maintain traction and avoid spinning wheels. When stopping, plan to apply the brakes gently. Slowly add pressure rather than braking suddenly.

Always wear your seatbelt.

Some other simple reminders are:

1. Keep your gas tank near full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
2. Try not to travel alone, especially in unfamiliar places.
3. Let someone know your timetable and primary and alternate routes.
4. Fully check and winterize your vehicle well before the winter season begins. Be sure the tread on your tires is good enough to last throughout the entire season. Install chains on the tires if necessary.
5. One final note is to equip your vehicle with an automobile safety kit. No kit can fully prepare you for a winter driving season and all of the contingencies that could arise as a result of a sudden change in weather patterns. But make sure that you think about the individuals you will be protecting in your car or truck. Each may have their own needs. It is a better idea to pack extra of the supplies needed than to be stranded without the proper equipment.

If you experience car trouble, it's recommended that you stay in your vehicle to avoid personal injury.

If you need to use a cell phone to call for help, pull well off the road to make or receive a call. Using hand-held cell phones and other hand-held electronic communication or entertainment devices while driving is against the law.

Remember to pay close attention to emergency vehicles and tow trucks. Under the Alberta Traffic Safety Act, if the lights on stopped emergency vehicles or tow trucks are flashing, drivers in the lane closest must slow down to 60 km/h or less.

If you have information a crime, contact Protective Services at 780-471-7477. If you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your identity will remain anonymous, and if the information you provide leads to a conviction, you could be eligible for a reward of up to \$2000.00.

***Everybody benefits, except the criminal.***