

FOUL WEATHER DRIVING

SAFETY TALK

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Sleet, snow, and ice are a part of winter driving in many states. Knowing the road conditions and adjusting your driving habits are both essential to safe winter weather driving. Remember, staying safe requires more than good driving skills. Make sure your work vehicles have an emergency kit and a full tank of gas.

FOUL WEATHER DRIVING TIPS

1. **Make sure you're well-rested** before every trip. If you feel fatigued, fresh air can help you stay alert.
2. **Brake at the top of blind hills**, so you can stop if the road isn't clear ahead. Otherwise, the loss of traction and gravity will work against you.
3. Avoid sudden maneuvers to prevent skidding.
4. **Avoid obvious trouble spots**. If other drivers have clearly had difficulty with road conditions, you may too.
5. **Check your brakes**. If your vehicle is not equipped with an automatic air dryer, you may have to manually drain air tanks every day.
6. Know when conditions are too hazardous to continue, pull off the road at the first safe opportunity, and notify others of the delay.

CHECKLIST

- Do you reduce your speed on slippery roads?
- Do you allow more clearance between yourself and other vehicles or fixed objects in parking lots?
- Have you checked your lighting system? Nearly 80 percent of all light bulb failure is due to environmental reasons. Inspect and clean headlights more frequently in the winter.
- Are you experienced and comfortable driving through wintry road conditions?
- Do you recognize and stop when conditions become too hazardous to proceed?
- Do you carry a cell phone and other emergency gear (flash lights, blankets, food, etc.)?

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

1. Who should our drivers call if conditions become too treacherous to proceed?
2. Are our drivers prepared to handle foul weather conditions?
3. Are there any specific points or problems you wish to discuss?

ACCIDENTS ARE PREVENTABLE. LEARN MORE AT GRINNELLMUTUAL.COM.

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