



Driving Indiana's Economic Growth

Winter Driving Tips
INDOT Office of Communication

Preparing for Winter Driving



Before Winter Arrives

Get your vehicle ready by checking:



- Battery
- Belts
- Hoses
- Radiator
- Oil
- Lights
- Brakes
- Exhaust System
- Heater/Defroster
- Ignition system



Before Winter Arrives

Pay attention to tires



- Worn and damaged tires hamper your ability to drive safely
- Have tires checked or replaced before winter
- Check tire pressure frequently throughout winter



Before Winter Arrives

Prepare a winter driving survival kit

- Ice scraper/snow brush
- Shovel
- Sand or other traction aid
- Tow rope or chain
- Booster cables
- Road flares or warning lights
- Gas line antifreeze
- Flashlight and batteries
- First aid kit
- Fire extinguisher
- Small tool kit
- Extra clothing and footwear
- Non-perishable energy food (granola bars, dried fruit, chocolate, fruit juice)
- Candle and small tin can
- Matches



Before Heading Out



- Plan your route
- Wear comfortable clothing
- Clear snow and ice from car
- Check your vehicle
- Carry a cell phone



Winter Driving Strategies



Slow Down!

- Drive according to road and weather conditions
- Slow down at the first sign of rain, sleet or snow.
- Remember, posted speeds are for dry pavement



Winter Driving Strategies



Clear Snow and Ice

- Clear all windows and lights, even the hood and the roof, before driving



Winter Driving Strategies

Know current road conditions

- Check the local news before heading out.
- Call the Indiana State Police Road Condition Hotline at (800) 261-7623



Winter Driving Strategies



Leave room for maintenance vehicles and plows.

- Stay at least 15 car lengths (200 feet) back
- Don't pass on right
- Remember, following the plow is often the safest place to be in winter weather.



Winter Driving Strategies

Watch for icy surfaces on bridges

- Even when the rest of the road seems to be in good condition, bridge decks will ice up first.



Winter Driving Strategies



Look farther ahead in traffic.

- Actions by other drivers will alert you to problems and give you extra seconds to react.



Winter Driving Strategies



- Trucks take longer to stop.**
- So, don't cut in front of them!



Winter Driving Strategies



Don't use your cruise control or overdrive when it is freezing (or colder).



Winter Driving Strategies

Don't get overconfident with four-wheel drive.

- Four-wheel drive helps you get going more quickly, but it won't help you stop faster.



Winter Driving Strategies

Don't pump anti-lock brakes.

- This can cause your car to skid.
- The correct way is "stomp and steer."



Winter Driving Strategies



Adjust to road conditions.

- The faster you go, the longer it will take to turn, slow down and stop.



Winter Driving Strategies



- **Allow extra time** to reach your destination when the roads may be slick.
- Consider delaying your trip.



Winter Driving Strategies



Drive with your headlights on

- This will allow other drivers to see you.



Winter Driving Strategies



Do not drive
when the roads
are icy if at all
possible



Questions?



Contact Information

Name

Phone

Address

Email

Thanks!

