



Winter Driving Tips

- **Plan ahead and prepare for all kinds of winter storm conditions:**
 - Maintain at least a three-quarter full tank of gas
 - Carry warm clothes to protect you during extended time periods in cold temperatures
 - Carry tire chains, snow cables or snow tires
 - Carry plenty of food and water and all necessary medications
 - Carry a fully charged cell phone
 - Visit www.az511.gov or dial **5-1-1** to check for current road and weather conditions
 - Plan your travel route and allow for extra time to arrive at your destination
 - Notify someone of your travel route, destination and projected arrival time
 - Get plenty of rest before your trip; take breaks to stay alert for long drives
 - Carry an emergency preparedness kit in your vehicle that includes blankets, a flashlight, an ice scraper, a shovel, sand for traction, and hazard warning lights or reflectors
- **When driving on wet or slippery roadways:**
 - Brake slowly to avoid any panic braking or jerking the steering wheel
 - Use short turning movements to steer around traffic hazards or to change lanes
 - Accelerate slowly to get the best traction
 - Increase the distance between you and the traffic ahead
 - Avoid driving when you are tired or becoming drowsy
 - Be alert: ice forms on bridges first and is hard to see
 - Beware of shaded areas on the roadway: ice may be present
 - Yield to the right to allow emergency vehicles to get around you
 - Don't block the emergency lane to wait for traffic to clear or for a rest stop
 - Do not closely follow snow plows
- **If involved in a collision or other incident requiring *emergency* assistance:**
 - Dial 9-1-1
 - If possible, move the vehicle out the travel lanes into a safe area
 - Attend to all medical needs in a safe place if possible
 - If you are making arrangements to have your vehicle towed, do that in a safe location
 - If your vehicle becomes non-operational, raising the front hood signals that it is disabled
- **If you need to exit your vehicle:**
 - Be alert to the hazards of moving traffic, especially on a slippery road surface
 - Do not stand anywhere in the travel lanes or close to your vehicle
 - Be advised that the emergency lane or shoulder berm is not a safe place to stand or park