

Stay safe this winter holiday season by planning ahead and making good choices when traveling. When preparing to travel, be aware of current and forecasted weather conditions. Get your car ready for cold weather before winter arrives and ensure it is well-equipped for the road conditions.

Remember the three P's of Safe Winter Driving:

**PREPARE** for the trip >> **PROTECT** yourself >> **PREVENT** crashes on the road

### **CHECK THE CONDITION OF YOUR WINDSHIELD WIPER BLADES**

Most blades are recommended for replacement at one year or less.

### **USE A WINTER WINDSHIELD WASHER FLUID**

It should be rated not to freeze at 0°F (if you are traveling in an area subject to freezing). In areas of extreme cold use washer fluid with a freeze point of -25°F to -35°F.

### **CHECK THE VEHICLE'S EXTERIOR LIGHTS/LAMPS**

Visibility is generally reduced during winter weather and there are fewer daylight hours. Make sure they are working.



### **CLEAR ALL WINDOWS, HEADLAMPS, TAIL LAMPS AND SIGNAL LAMPS OF FROST, ICE AND SNOW**

See and be seen in winter weather.

### **CHECK ALL VITAL FLUIDS**

Engine oil, transmission fluid, coolant/antifreeze, and brake fluid need to be within their normal operating range.

### **CHECK TIRE INFLATION**

As temperatures fall, tire air pressure can drop by as much as 1 psi (pounds per square inch) for every 10 degrees the temperature falls.

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## Winter Driving Safety Tips

- Speed limits are based on normal road conditions, so reduce your speed when there is ice or snow.
- Stay at least 200 feet back if you are behind a snow plow.
- Bridges, ramps and overpasses freeze first, so use extreme caution.
- Know how to safely maneuver a vehicle if skidding on ice occurs.
- Maintain at least three times the normal following distance when driving on snow and ice.
- Be aware of 'black ice' which is a nearly invisible layer of ice that can develop on roads and cause a driver to rapidly lose control. Black ice is especially common at night.



*Not clearing ice and snow from your vehicle before driving is dangerous. Take time to properly clear windows, mirrors and lights.*





Don't forget that travel safety awareness applies to all aspects of your winter holiday travel including securing your home while you are away, airline travel, hotel safety and traveling with kids and pets.

- Suspend your newspaper delivery and mail service while you are on vacation, or have someone you trust pick it up for you.
- Consider having a few lights inside the house on timers to make it appear as if there is activity inside the house while you are away.
- Label your luggage with your name and phone number, and make a list or take photos of the items in your checked bags. If you must pack valuable items, try to take those in your carry-on luggage.
- Keep track of your valuables while traveling, don't leave your baggage unattended.
- Don't accept packages from strangers and report suspicious activities.



(\*8) Never leave bags unattended when traveling.

## TRAVELING WITH KIDS



USE ELECTRONIC DEVICES FOR PERIODS OF BOREDOM OR CRANKINESS.



PACK A COOLER WITH WATER AND HEALTHY SNACKS SUCH AS FRUIT, NUTS, & GRANOLA BARS



STOP EVERY FEW HOURS TO LET THE KIDS STRETCH THEIR LEGS



ALWAYS BE SURE TO USE PROPER RESTRAINTS

(\*9)

## TRAVELING WITH PETS



MAKE SURE YOUR PET IS WEARING ID TAGS



USE A SAFETY RESTRAINT



BRING A PORTABLE WATER BOWL



REMEMBER YOUR PET'S FAVORITE TOY



➤ More tips to stay safe while traveling for the holidays this winter season:

- Avoid travel during winter weather advisories.
- Avoid fatigue, get plenty of rest before the trip and if driving, stop at least every three hours and rotate drivers if possible.
- Do not text or become otherwise distracted while driving.
- Consider joining AAA or another travel club for roadside and travel assistance if it becomes unexpectedly needed.
- Understand your health and accident insurance coverage.
- Tell friends or family your travel route and expected arrival time.
- Carry a cell phone; ensure it is always charged.
- Carry a small first aid kit while traveling.
- Plan your route ahead of time.
- Use a wintertime formula in your windshield washer.
- Keep gas tank full to avoid ice in the tank and fuel lines.
- Have vehicles serviced before road trips.
- Never broadcast your location on Facebook or Twitter.



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