



"Preserving Our Past, Enhancing Our Future"

Winter Driving Tips

Winter driving can be dangerous. Common sense dictates that travelers should monitor weather reports, drive only when necessary, slow down when conditions warrant, and drive cautiously. If driving in snow or icy conditions is necessary, the Commission urges motorists to follow these basic recommendations:

- Allow extra time for travel.
- Plan ahead. Before setting out to travel in a snow or ice event, get the latest road conditions in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. In New Jersey, go to www.511NJ.org or dial 511 anywhere in the state. In Pennsylvania, go to www.511PA.com, or dial 511 anywhere in the state.
- Decrease speed and leave plenty of room to stop; allow at least three times more space than usual between your vehicles and the vehicle in front of you.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. (Even at temperatures above freezing, if conditions are wet, motorists might encounter ice in shady areas or exposed roadways like bridges.)
- Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- Make turns gradually and slowly, especially in heavily traveled areas like intersections that might be icy from snow that melted and refroze.
- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- Keep your lights and windshield clean.
- Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
- Don't pass snow plows and sanding trucks. Plow/salt-truck drivers have limited visibility and you're likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.
- Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel- and front-wheel-drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads and bridges.
- Tune to radio stations that provide regular weather and travel bulletins.
- Travel on main routes; these are usually cleared and sanded first.
- Buckle up and always secure children in safety seats.
- Do not drive after consuming alcoholic beverages. Designate a driver or call a cab. Report impaired motorists to law enforcement authorities.