

Winter Driving Preparedness Safety Tips

Information to help you and your family stay safe.

- Know before you go. (if the weather is bad or may turn bad, make a decision about whether or not it is really necessary for you travel)
- If you do decide you need to travel, let someone know your timetable and route of travel in case you get stuck.
- Make sure your tires are in good shape and properly inflated.
- Have your battery checked, as cold weather will suck some of their energy.
- Check your fluids: be sure your antifreeze is rated for winter conditions and is filled up. Some no-freeze washer fluid could also prove worthwhile.
- Keep your gas tank above half full.
- Decrease your speed
- Increase your following distance

Be prepared for winter season driving by keeping these items handy in your vehicle.



Blankets or a sleeping bag



Flashlight or battery-powered lantern, with extra batteries



Battery-powered radio



Jumper or booster cables



Emergency flares



Matches



Extra clothing, such as boots, hats, and mittens



A snow shovel



Tow chain



Bottled water or juice, and nonperishable high-energy foods



First-aid kit with necessary medications and pocket knife



Road salt, sand, or non-clumping cat litter for tire traction



A cell phone and car charger



Ice scraper and snow brush or small broom



Spare tire, tire repair kit, and pump



Fluorescent distress flag

Source: Department of Transportation and National Weather Service

Prepare For the Extreme

By the time severe weather hits, it's already too late. Disaster preparedness is about having an established safety plan. Whether it's preparedness for floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, or fires,

the key to survival in disasters is planning. Stay informed, create an emergency plan, put together an emergency kit, and most importantly—remain safe in an emergency.

For more information on Emergency Preparedness, contact the Marshall County Emergency Management Agency at 574-936-3740.