

## Proceed with Care!

- **Speed:** The faster you're going, the longer it will take to stop. When accelerating on snow or ice, take it slow to avoid slipping, skidding, or sliding.
- **Distance:** Give yourself space. It takes more time and extra distance to bring your vehicle to a stop on slick and snowy roads. Leave additional space between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- **Brake:** Brake early, brake slowly, brake correctly, and never slam on the brakes. Utilize your vehicle's anti-lock brakes or gently pump the pedal to stop without skidding. Allow plenty of room to stop.
- **Control:** When driving on ice and snow, do not use cruise control and avoid abrupt maneuvers. When merging into traffic, take it slow. Sudden movements can cause your vehicle to skid.
- **Vision:** Be aware of what's going on ahead of you. Actions by other drivers will alert you to problems more quickly and give you extra time to react safely.



### For More Information

More information about winter driving safety and INDOT winter operations is available at:

[INDOTWinterOps.com](http://INDOTWinterOps.com)



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# WINTER DRIVING SAFETY



## Are You Ready for Winter Driving?



The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) wants you and your family to stay safe on the roads this winter. By following these tips and advice, you'll be ready for winter driving. Remember: **Ice and Snow, Take it Slow!**

### Be Prepared!

- **Knowledge:** Safe drivers know the weather, and their limits. Find out about current driving conditions before traveling.
  - Check pavement conditions online at [indot.carsprogram.org](http://indot.carsprogram.org).
  - View travel condition maps or report road hazards at [trafficwise.in.gov](http://trafficwise.in.gov).
  - Use the INDOT mobile app to review road conditions, travel times, traffic incidents and more.
- **Clear:** Remove any snow on your vehicle's windows, lights, brake lights and signals. Make sure you can see and be seen.
- **Inspect:** Check your vehicle's tires, wiper blades, fluids, lights, belts, and hoses. A breakdown is bad on a good day and dangerous on a bad-weather day.
- **Time:** Leave plenty of time to reach your destination safely. It's not worth putting yourself and others in a dangerous situation just to be on time.

## Be Cautious!



Winter weather can offer hazardous conditions and dangerous driving challenges. Be aware of these roadway conditions:

- **First Snow or Ice:** Drivers often aren't prepared for winter driving after the first storm and forget to take it slow. Remember to drive well below the posted speed limit and leave plenty of room between vehicles.
- **Black Ice:** Roads that seem dry may actually be slippery — and dangerous. Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady areas — all are hot spots for black ice.



- **Limited Visibility:** Stay attentive and reduce speed. Know what's going on around you.
- **Four-Wheel Drive:** No matter what type of vehicle you drive, go slow on snow and ice. Four-wheel drive vehicles may enable you to go faster, but won't help you stop sooner.

## Be Safe Near Snowplows!



In the winter, INDOT snowplow drivers are keeping roads clear of snow and ice to keep you safe. Exercise caution when driving near snowplows.

- **Distance:** Give snowplows room to work. The plows are wide and can cross the centerline or shoulder. Don't tailgate and try not to pass.
- **Speed:** Snowplows travel below the posted speed limit. Be patient. Allow plenty of time to slow down.
- **Vision:** A snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they don't always see you.

