CodeRED™

Top 10 Tips for Safe Winter Traveling

Over 445,000 people are injured and nearly 6,000 killed in weather-related crashes in the U.S. every year. Winter weather, like snow and ice create dangerous conditions for travel that require proactive measures to ensure safety and minimize risks. These 10 winter safety tips can help you and your family prepare for hazardous conditions.

ONE.

Opt-in to receive CodeRED Emergency Alerts AND download the CodeRED Mobile Alert app.

Visit your city/county's website to register for email, text and/or phone alerts, while also downloading the mobile app from the Google Play or App Store: www.onsolve.com/crmobile.

TWO.

Have your car inspected at the start of the season.

Your local auto shop can inspect your vehicle to make sure all fluids are topped off and tires are winter-ready. Take this time to purchase new tires if you've driven over 50,000 miles or the thread is running thin.

THREE.

Plan your travel route in advance.

It's important to stay on flat main roads and highways as much as possible. If you slam on your breaks on an icy road or sloping hill, you're more subject to an accident with less control of your vehicle.

Have a backup plan in place as road closings and traffic may interfere with your chosen route.

FOUR.

Travel during daylight hours and avoid driving when you are tired.

You can reduce driving-related risks by getting the right amount of rest before traveling. Drink plenty of water, too, as adequate hydration supports alertness.

FIVE.

Refrain from traveling alone if possible.

Always let a friend or family member know your travel plans, including when you expect to return.

SIX.

Add extra travel time.

It takes much longer for vehicles to react on icy roads so give yourself plenty of time to travel.

Review best practices for winter weather driving, including accelerating and decelerating slowly, allowing extra space for maneuvering and stopping, and avoiding powering up hills.

SEVEN.

Pull over during unsafe conditions.

If a blizzard or storm makes continuing unsafe, pull over, turn on your hazard lights, and wait it out. If possible, look for the closest exit where traffic is slow and stay in your vehicle until conditions lighten.

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EIGHT.

Do not attempt to walk on foot for help in extreme winter weather.

Several dangers present themselves if you walk on foot, from getting lost to hypothermia. If it's dark outside, turn on your interior overhead light to help rescuers locate you.

NINE.

Be aware of carbon monoxide dangers.

If you do become stranded in bad weather, running your engine can help you stay warm, but it can also lead to dangerous carbon monoxide buildup if your exhaust pipe becomes blocked. Make sure to only run your engine for 10 minutes per hour while removing any snow or ice that may accumulate on your exhaust pipe.

TEN.

Always make sure your cell phone is fully charged.

Additionally, pack a winter safety kit to keep in your car with the following: a cell phone charger, ice scraper, jumper cables, a tow rope, sand for traction, blankets, flashlights, bottled water, matches and/or emergency candles, a portable radio, and a first aid kit.

Use these tips to stay better prepared to navigate inclement conditions, staying ahead of the weather with timely alerts from CodeRED.

Register for CodeRED today.

Make sure you remain informed and aware of emergency situations happening near you by signing up for CodeRED alerts on your city/county's website, or by downloading the CodeRED Mobile Alert app at www.onsolve.com/crmobile

DOWNLOAD THE APP

For more information: onsolve.com 866 939 0911

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