

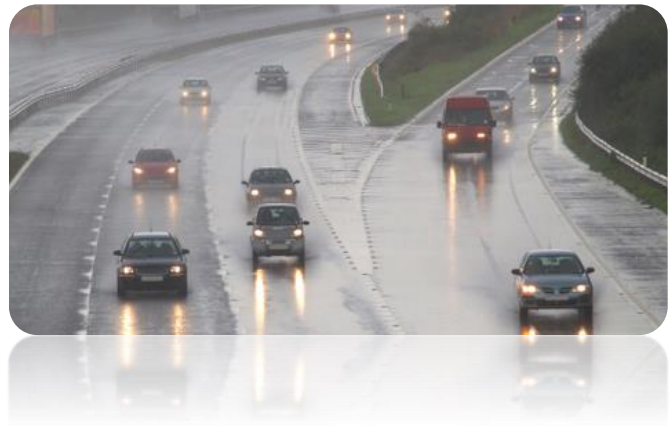
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Driving Safe in Hazardous Conditions

Did you know that over twenty percent of all car accidents are weather-related? According to the Federal Highway Administration, nearly 5,000 deaths and over 418,000 injuries are caused by hazardous conditions due to weather. Here are some tips to drive safely in different weather conditions:

Heavy Rain

- Slow Down.
- Turn your lights on.
 - This will allow other drivers to see you more clearly as well as giving you more visibility.
- Increase the distance between yourself and other vehicles.
- Avoid cruise control.
- Turn Around Don't Drown.
 - It only takes one foot of rushing water to lift away most cars and only two feet to lift away most trucks and SUVs. If you see a road is flooded, turn around.



Snow and Ice

- Test your brakes away from traffic.
- Drive in other vehicles' tracks.
- Fit winter tires.
 - Proper winter tires allow for better traction in snow and ice.
- Feather your brakes.
- Don't brake if you begin to slide on ice.
 - Rather, stop accelerating and steer in the direction you want to go until your tires regain traction.



Fog

- Turn on your fog lamps.
- Use low beam headlights instead of high beams.
 - High beams reflect off dense fog and further reduce visibility.
- Tap your brakes.
 - Drivers behind you will be more able to see you slowing if your brake lights blink a few times.
- Use the line pavement on the right-side as a guide.
 - Do not use the center pavement lines as this may move you closer to oncoming traffic.



Wind

- Keep your hands on the wheel.
- Be aware of high-profile vehicles.
 - Trucks, SUVs, vans, and vehicles towing trailers are at the highest risk of being flipped or pushed in high winds.
- Watch for objects that may blow into the roadway.
- Don't overcorrect if a short gust knocks you off course.

