WINTER DRIVING TIPS

Here’s some driving tips from MCDOT to help keep you save during winter storms.

BEFORE YOU DRIVE

• Make the effort to remove ice and snow from all parts of your vehicle. Flying snow and ice is dangerous and good visibility is essential for a safe journey. Make sure you are visible and that you can see other drivers.
• Keep some basic equipment in your vehicle - a shovel, blanket, water, jumper cables, flares, and food.
• Check your car’s antifreeze, oil, battery, defroster, heater, wipers and washer fluid levels.
• Be sure to have plenty of gas in the tank.
• Inspect the tires to ensure there is adequate tread and air pressure.

DRIVING DURING THE STORM

• Always buckle up and require your passengers to do the same.
• During winter storms, only drive if necessary.
• If you do have to drive, make sure to allow extra time for your trip.
• Regardless of your vehicle type, winter road conditions can impact your drive or commute..
• Snow and ice may create a slick road surface, making it difficult to control your vehicle.
• Be cautious when approaching bridges, exits, and ramps – they are usually the first surfaces to freeze.
• If your car begins to skid, do not slam on your brakes. Take your foot off the gas and steer in the direction of the skid.
• Do not pass plows or salt trucks. Operators may not see you.
• If you break down, the safest place to wait is in your car. If possible, move your vehicle off the roadway.
• Abandoned vehicles may be subject to towing, ticketing and a fine.
• When shoveling snow from your driveway, pile snow out of the roadway to keep it from being plowed back onto the driveway.