

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIP-OF-THE-MONTH – February **Winter Driving Tips**

Winter can be a beautiful time of the year. However, it can also bring a variety of severe driving conditions. Here is some information to help make your winter driving safe.

- Winterize Your Vehicle – check your brakes, windshield wipers, tires, exhaust system and heater/defroster to make sure they are in good working conditions.

Winter weather is never predictable. Expect the worse conditions and be prepared by having an emergency kit in your car. The following items may be of use should you find yourself stranded during a storm:

- Flashlight – With extra batteries
- Blankets, Extra Clothing, Water & Snacks
- Clean, Dry Towel – To dry your hands from the cold
- Gloves – Helpful to protect hands from the cold
- Ice Scraper/Deicer – To keep windows clear of snow/ice for improved visibility
- Shovel – To free your vehicle should you get snowed in
- Broom – A small broom or brush can be used to clear snow off your vehicle
- Spare Key – Many have locked themselves out after putting on chains
- Sand/Kitty Litter – Can help with traction should you get stuck in mud or snow



Winter Driving Tips:

- Allow Enough Time
- Keep Fuel Tank Full
- Keep Windows Clear
- Slow Down and Use Your Seat Belt
- Stay a safe distance behind other vehicles
- Turn Off Cruise Control
- Be aware of Black Ice
- Be Observant
- Watch for snow removal equipment



For further information:

- Caltrans
To keep informed of changing conditions: Phone 1-800-427-ROAD (7623)
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo>
- Ready Campaign
“How to Prepare for a Winter Storm”
www.ready.gov/winter-weather

