



AUSTIN MOBILITY go

Central Texas Winter Driving Safety Tips

Plan your route ahead

Keep yourself and others safe by planning ahead before you venture out into bad weather.

- ✓ Check the weather, road conditions, and traffic. Plan to leave early if necessary.
- ✓ Review directions and maps before you go, even if you use a GPS system, and let others know your route and arrival time.

Know Your Car

Every vehicle handles differently; this is particularly true when driving on wet, icy, or snowy roads.

- ✓ Before moving your car, clean snow, ice or dirt from the windows, the forward sensors, headlights, tail lights and backup camera.
- ✓ Know the location of the hazard lights in case of emergency.
- ✓ For electric or hybrid-electric vehicles, make sure your vehicle is plugged in whenever it is not in use.

Driving In Winter Conditions

- ✓ Drive slowly and increase your following distance so that you'll have plenty of time to stop.
- ✓ Know your brakes. Generally, if you have antilock brakes, apply firm, continuous pressure. If you don't have antilock brakes, pump the brakes gently.
- ✓ Stay calm in a skid and ease your foot off the gas while carefully steering in the direction you want the front of your vehicle to go. Continue to stay off the pedals until you are able to regain control of your vehicle.
- ✓ Obey driving laws such as wearing a seat belt and avoiding use of hand-held devices like cell phones.

Stock Your Vehicle

Keep the following on hand for an emergency:

- ✓ Ice scraper for your windshield and abrasive material such as sand or kitty litter, in case your vehicle gets stuck in the snow.
- ✓ Jumper cables, flashlight, and warning devices such as flares and emergency markers.
- ✓ A cell phone, cell phone charger and blankets for longer trips or when driving in lightly populated areas.

Get Your Car Serviced Now

Ensure your vehicle is in optimal condition.

- ✓ Visit your mechanic for a tune-up and other routine maintenance.
- ✓ Have your entire vehicle checked thoroughly for leaks, badly worn hoses, or other needed parts, repairs, and replacements.
- ✓ Inspect your tires at least once a month and always before setting out on a long road trip. Check to make sure the tread is sufficient with no uneven wear, and that the rubber is in good overall condition. Also check the tire pressure and don't forget to examine your spare tire as well!