

## Prepare Your Vehicle

- Carry a first aid kit, map, ice scraper, snow brush, matches, candles, flashlight and extra batteries, warning triangles, flares, jumper cables, folding shovel, bag of sand, blanket, winter gloves, cell phone, and an emergency HELP sign.
- Add gas line anti-freeze to every second tank of gas.
- Keep you gas tank over half full.
- Keep windshield wipers in good shape or install winter wipers.
- Keep windshield washer fluid full.
- Check engine oil and have winter weight installed.
- Keep battery terminals clean, tight and free of corrosion.
- Check tire pressure and conditions, including the spare tire.
- Have tires balanced and correct any misalignment.
- Check coolant, transmission and brake fluids.
- Check all of the lights and replace if necessary.
- Prepare a winter driving kit.



## When Driving

- Start slowly and brake in slow steady strokes.
- Stay a safe distance behind snowplows and other vehicles.
- Be aware that bridges and overpasses may freeze first.
- Watch for "black ice".
- Turn on your headlights to be seen better.
- Drive below the posted speed limit in bad weather.
- Wear your seatbelt.
- Don't use the cruise control.
- Don't be overconfident in 4X4 vehicles.
- Look farther ahead in traffic for possible hazards.
- If you start feeling tired, pull off the road.
- Don't pass snowplows or spreaders unless absolutely necessary.
- Test your brakes periodically by slowly touching the brake pad.
- Watch your rear view mirrors for vehicle approaching too fast.
- Treat a non-working traffic light as a four-way stop.
- Reduce speed when approaching intersections or bridges.
- Don't pump anti-lock brakes.
- If weather conditions worsen, consider getting off of the road.

## If You Become Stuck or Stranded

- Remove snow from around the exhaust pipe.
- Keep the engine running for warmth and crack a window to avoid carbon dioxide.
- Avoid over-exertion and over-exposure to the cold.
- Stay in the car if you cannot shovel your way out of the snow.
- Turn on flashing lights or set up flares.
- Bundle up in a blanket or extra clothing.
- Keep a hat and scarf on.
- Watch for signs of frostbite or hypothermia.
- Do not fall asleep.
- Move around to keep circulation going.
- **DON'T'S DRINK AND DRIVE & WEAR YOUR SEATBELT.**



## If You Start To Lose Control

- Don't Panic!
- Look to where you want your vehicle to go and steer in that direction.
- Do not brake or accelerate—just steer.



For more information about driving safely contact:

Officer James Ghrist

(219) 836-6639



Munster Police Department  
1001 Ridge Road  
Munster, Indiana

Phone: 219-836-6600  
FAX: 219-836-8134



**Munster  
Police  
Department**

## Winter Driving Safety Tips



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