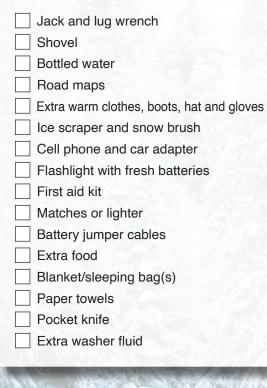
#### **BE PREPARED!**

During winter months, use this handy checklist to make sure you're prepared every time you take a trip.





For more information, or to request a safety presentation, please send an email to the ISP Safety Education Unit at:

#### ISP.Safety.Education@illinois.gov

or contact your local ISP Troop:

#### https://isp.illinois.gov/Patrol/ TroopMap



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# **Preparing for** Winter Travel



### TAKE YOUR TIME ...

- Check Illinois road conditions at www.gettingaroundillinois.com before you leave or call the Winter Road Conditions Hotline at 1-800-452-4368 for valuable travel information, which is continuously updated.
- · Choose main routes and be rested and alert.
- Make someone aware of your routes and if your plans change, let someone know. Check in when you've reached your destination.
- Remember, cell phone coverage is not available in many remote areas.
- · Keep your gas tank at least half full.
- Clear any snow, ice or frost from windows, lights, hood, heater and air inlet vents (don't forget mirrors and wipers).
- Do not drive with the heater in recirculation mode as it can increase humidity.
- Drive with your lights on and reduce your speed.



# Use These Tips to Prevent Slips

Adjust your driving for the conditions. If there is ice or snow on the road you must take extra precautions.

- Don't use cruise control in wet, icy or snowy weather.
- Position your hands on the steering wheel at 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock.
- If you lose traction, gradually slow down don't slam on the brakes!
- Steering, braking and accelerating smoothly are key to maximum vehicle control on slippery surfaces. Steer just enough to follow the path you intend (most people steer too much or too fast).
- Be ready to handle potentially dangerous situations by thinking ahead about your options, such as controlling your speed and changing lanes.
- Use extra caution when driving on bridges or concrete highways – ice forms first on these surfaces.
- Avoid driving through snowdrifts; they may cause you to lose control of your vehicle.
- Slow down in advance of shaded areas, especially curves, where ice and snow are the last to melt.



### WATCH OUT FOR SNOWPLOWS

Remember...snowplows are covered under Scott's Law, the "Move Over Law," which mandates that when approaching any emergency vehicle stopped along the roadway, you must:

- Proceed with due caution
- Change lanes if possible
- · Reduce your speed



Following a snowplow too closely can be dangerous. Give them room.

# DURING A WINTER STORM

#### IF STRANDED IN A CAR ...

Remain in your vehicle where rescuers are most likely to find you! Turn your hazard lights on, hang a piece of cloth or distress flag from the radio antenna or window, or display a trouble sign.

When the engine is running, open a window slightly. This will protect you from carbon monoxide. You may need to clear snow away from the car's exhaust pipe.