

# Safe Winter Driving Tips

## Get your car serviced now

- Have your entire vehicle checked thoroughly for leaks, or needed repairs and replacements.

## Check your battery

- Be aware that it takes more battery power to start your vehicle in cold weather than in warm.

## Check your cooling system

- Make sure you have enough coolant in and that it's designed to withstand winter temperatures.

## Fill your windshield washer reservoir

- Completely fill your vehicle's reservoir with "no-freeze" fluid and buy extra to keep on hand.

## Check your windshield wipers and defrosters

- Make sure to replace worn blades or install heavy duty wipers.
- Make sure both front and rear defrosters work properly.

## Inspect your tires

- Check tire pressure and look closely at your tread.
- Visit [www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov) for tire ratings before buying new ones.

## Know your car

- Every vehicle handles differently. Take time now to learn how to best handle your vehicle under winter weather driving conditions.

## Plan your travel and route

- Check the weather, road conditions and traffic; plan to leave early if necessary.
- Keep your gas tank close to full .
- Dial 511 or check ND DOT for current road conditions at [www.dot.nd.gov](http://www.dot.nd.gov).

## Stock your vehicle

- Carry items you may need in an emergency, such as a shovel, ice scraper, jumper cables, flashlight, blankets, cell phone with charger, water and food.

## Learn what to do in a winter emergency

- Stay with your car and don't overexert yourself.
- Put bright markers on the antenna or windows and keep the dome light turned on.
- If you must run your vehicle, clear the exhaust pipe or any snow and run it sporadically to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

## Protect yourself and your loved ones

- Remember to always wear your seat belt and ensure that everyone else is buckled up.
- Do not text or engage in any other activities that may distract you while driving.
- Never leave your child unattended in or around vehicles.

