



WINTER DRIVING

When driving in winter weather, watch out. Here are some to be on the lookout for:

- **Black Ice:** Roads that seem dry may be slippery – and dangerous. Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges, or shady areas – all are hot spots for black ice.
- **Four-Wheel Drive:** On snow and ice, go slowly, no matter what type of vehicle you drive. Even if you have an SUV with four-wheel drive you may not be able to stop any faster, or maintain control any better, once you lose traction.
- **Knowledge:** Before leaving home, find out about the driving conditions. Safe drivers know the weather and their limits.
- **Clear:** Remove any snow on your vehicle's windows, lights, brake lights, and signals. Make sure you can see and be seen.
- **Time:** Leave plenty of time to reach your destination safely.
- **Distance:** Give yourself space. It takes extra time and extra distance to bring your car to a stop on slick and snowy roads. Leave extra room between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- **Brake:** Brake early, brake slowly, brake correctly, and never slam on the brakes. If you don't have anti-lock brakes, gently pump the pedal. Either way, give yourself plenty of room to stop.
- **Control:** When driving on ice and snow, do not use cruise control and avoid abrupt steering maneuvers. When merging into traffic, take it slow. Sudden movements can cause your vehicle to slide.
- **Vision:** Be aware of what's going on well ahead of you. Actions by other vehicles will alert you to problems more quickly and give you that split-second of extra time to react safely.

