

NOVEMBER 9, 2016



YES, WINTER IS COMING – HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO REMEMBER TO HELP YOU HAVE A SAFE WINTER DRIVING EXPERIENCE

- If your car needs regular service, get it done now because breaking down in the winter is not as fun as in the summer
- Make sure your battery & charging system are up to snuff
- Make sure your windshield wipers are in good shape & remember to turn them off before shutting off the engine. If your blades do freeze to the windshield, when you go to start your car the wiper motor may burn out trying to get them back to the “rest position”, all the while you are wondering “What is Burning?”
- Make sure your windshield washer reservoir is full, on snowy or messy days you could easily go through half a gallon or more
- Keep your gas tank close to full, running your engine could be your only source of heat if stranded
- Make sure your rear-window defroster works
- Take extra time to make sure your car is clean & your visibility is good, clear off the entire car, not just a little peephole in the windshield



- Call 511 or visit www.511mn.org before leaving on your trip to get current road conditions
- Turn on your headlights & wear your seat belt
- Turn off your cruise control
- Slow down; allow at least five car lengths, & preferably 10, between your vehicle & a plow
- Stay behind the snowplow, the road behind a snowplow is safer to drive on
- Watch for snowplows that turn or exit frequently & often with little warning
- Never drive into a snow cloud
- When driving in snow, do everything slowly



DID YOU KNOW?

- A serving of poultry costs about 90 gallons of water to produce. There are also water costs embedded in the transportation of food (gasoline costs water to make). So, consider how far your food has to travel, & buy local to cut your water footprint.
- Recycling a pound of paper, less than the weight of your average newspaper, saves about 3.5 gallons of water. Buying recycled paper products saves water too, as it takes about six gallons of water to produce a dollar's worth of paper.
- A gallon of gasoline takes nearly 13 gallons of water to produce. Combine your errands, car pool to work or take public transportation to reduce both your energy & water use.

