

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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PRESS RELEASE

## NDOT Safe Winter Driving Tips

LAS VEGAS, NEV. – The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is providing safe driving reminders as wet winter weather encroaches. About 2,000 crashes occur statewide annually, on average, due to dangerous driving in snow, ice and rain, including speeding, tailgating, and drifting.

Motorists are reminded to drive slowly for winter weather conditions, leaving enough braking distance between them and other vehicles. Wearing a seat belt and focusing on the road are also important safe driving tips during any type of weather.

“We are dedicated to keeping Nevada highways safe for everyone traveling this winter,” said NDOT Director Kristina Swallow. “We ask motorists to budget extra travel time, slowing down in winter weather as we work to keep the highways clear. It will help keep everyone safe.”

Updated state road conditions, including winter road closures and incidents, are available by dialing “511” or logging on to [nvroads.com](http://nvroads.com) before driving. Drivers can also view live traffic cameras and sign up for free traffic alerts for their state road commute. Winter driving safety tips are available at [nevadadot.com/winter](http://nevadadot.com/winter).

### WINTER DRIVING TIPS

- Only travel in winter weather when necessary, leave enough time to safely reach your destination and plan your route to help avoid snowy/icy areas and steep hills.
- Before driving, check weather and road conditions by dialing 511 within Nevada (or 1-877-NV-ROADS outside of Nevada) or logging on to [www.nvroads.com](http://www.nvroads.com).
- Share your travel itinerary so others know when to expect you.
- Remove snow and ice from all vehicle windows, mirrors, lights, turn signals and license plates.
- Buckle up.
- Turn on headlights to see and be seen.
- Do not rely solely on GPS to find alternate routes, as it could lead to unmaintained roadways or hazardous areas.
- Turn off cruise control.
- Avoid quick starts, stops and fast turns. Accelerate, brake and steer smoothly and gradually.
- Reduce speed. Speed limits are based on normal road and weather conditions, not winter road conditions.
- Do not slam on brakes. Apply steady pressure on ABS-equipped (antilock braking system) vehicles and pump the brakes, if necessary, on non-ABS vehicles.
- Always comply with all posted traction device requirements.
- If your vehicle has snow tires, install and use them between October 1 and April 30.
- Keep additional distance from other vehicles.

- Watch carefully for snow removal equipment.
- Do not pass without good distance and sight clearance.
- Use extra caution on bridges, ramps, overpasses and shaded areas- they may freeze first.
- Maintain a high fuel level.
- If vehicle begins to skid, steer in direction of slide and slowly remove foot from accelerator.
- Be aware of black ice.
- If parked or stuck in snow, leave window slightly cracked for ventilation and make sure vehicle exhaust system is clear of snow.

## **BE PREPARED**

- Check before you go:
  - Wipers
  - Tires / tread
  - Brakes
  - Lights
  - Battery
  - Radiator
  - Belts / hoses
  - Exhaust / fuel / ignition system
  - Heater / defroster
  - Thermostat
  - Vehicle fluid levels
  - (anti-freeze oil, windshield, brake fluid, etc.)
  - Full gasoline tank

