



Plan Ahead



Fact Sheet

Do your part to keep our highways safe this winter by planning ahead and always driving according to weather and road conditions. And travel safely around snowplows to make it easier for maintenance crews to clear snow and ice from our roads as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Be Prepared!

- ❖ If you are travelling a long distance, plan your route ahead of time. Let someone know where you are going and when you plan to arrive.
- ❖ Check your vehicle before your trip and carry a winter survival kit in your vehicle that includes items such as a flashlight, warm blankets, extra clothing, winter boots, and non-perishable energy foods. A candle and matches generate some heat while waiting for help if you become stranded.
- ❖ Clear all snow and ice completely off windows, side view mirrors, headlights, taillights and licence plates.
- ❖ Keep your vehicle's fuel tank full. The extra volume can help reduce moisture problems in your fuel system and it adds extra weight to your vehicle. A topped-up gas tank will also be an asset if you become stranded.
- ❖ Buckle up! Wearing a seatbelt is the most effective way to reduce your risk of injury in a motor vehicle collision.
- ❖ Make sure you are alert and well rested before you begin your trip.
- ❖ Wear comfortable clothing that doesn't restrict your movement while at the wheel. Have warm clothing with you for when you get out of your vehicle.
- ❖ Check weather and travel conditions before heading out. Don't take chances if the weather is bad. Allow yourself extra time for travel, or wait until conditions improve.
- ❖ Road conditions are available by calling 511 or online at ontario.ca/trip 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

What to Do in an Emergency

If you get stuck or stranded, don't panic. Stay with your vehicle for safety and warmth. Wait for help to arrive. If you are in an area with cell phone service and have a cell phone, call for help. **Remember, dialing 911 on your cell phone will connect you with the emergency services contact centre in the area. Please use 1-888-310-1122 for non-emergencies.**

Be careful if you have to get out of your vehicle when on the shoulder of a busy road. If possible, use the door away from traffic and make sure you are visible to other drivers.

Use your emergency flashers, flares, or a Call Police sign. Run your engine sparingly and be careful of exhaust fumes. Check to make sure the exhaust pipe is clear of drifting snow before running the engine. Slightly open a window away from the wind to have a continuous supply of fresh air.

In blizzard conditions, especially overnight, make sure one person stays awake as help could take some time to arrive. Maintain circulation by moving your feet, hands and arms.