OVER ▶

# PREPARING
## FOR WINTER DRIVING

**DRIVING IN WINTER CAN BE STRESSFUL, ESPECIALLY IN INCLEMENT WEATHER WITH WET, SNOWY AND/OR ICY ROAD CONDITIONS.**

**GETTING YOUR VEHICLE WINTER READY CAN HELP REDUCE THE RISK(S) OF INCIDENTS THAT MAY OCCUR DUE TO UNPREDICTABLE EVENTS AND WILL GET YOU BETTER PREPARED FOR POSSIBLE EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.**

- **BE SURE TO WINTERIZE YOUR VEHICLE BEFORE WINTER STARTS**
- **MAKE SURE TO HAVE A FULLY STOCKED EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT**
- **PLAN YOUR WINTER DRIVING TRIP BEFORE GETTING OUT ON THE ROAD**





BC **Forest Safety**

Safety is **good** business

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# PREPARING FOR WINTER DRIVING

## HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO WINTERIZE YOUR VEHICLE:

- Test your battery - battery power reduces as external temperatures drop.
- Ensure the cooling system is in good working order.
- Have winter tires with a deeper, more flexible tread installed. **Winter tires or chains are required on most routes in BC from October 1st - April 30th.**
- Check the tire pressure - tire pressure drops as the temperature drops.
- Check your wiper blades and replace if needed.
- Add wiper fluid rated for -30 degrees.
- Keep gloves and a snow brush/scraper in your vehicle.

## KEEP YOUR CAR'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT FULLY STOCKED TO HANDLE ANY EMERGENCY. IT SHOULD INCLUDE:

- Properly fitting tire chains
- Bag of sand, salt or sand/salt mixture (kitty litter also works)
- Tow rope and booster cables
- Snow shovel / snow brush / ice scraper
- Vehicle warning devices such as flares or emergency lights
- Extra windshield wiper fluid appropriate for sub-freezing temperatures
- Roll of paper towel
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid kit and blanket
- Extra clothing including a hat, wind-proof pants and warm footwear
- Emergency food and water such as snack bars
- Matches and emergency candles

## CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING STEPS PRIOR TO STARTING YOUR TRIP IN WINTER CONDITIONS.

- Plan your driving in advance.
- Check weather conditions for your travel route (and time) before you begin driving.
- Review Drive BC and look at the road reports and updated road conditions in the region you are travelling.
- Wherever possible, postpone the trip when the weather is bad.
- Plan your arrival time at a destination. Consider any delays due to slower traffic, reduced visibility, roadblocks, abandoned automobiles, collisions, etc.
- Inform someone of your route and planned arrival time.
- Choose warm, comfortable, layered clothing. If you need to remove any clothing while driving, STOP the vehicle in a safe spot and keep outdoor clothing close at hand.
- Warm up your vehicle BEFORE driving to reduce moisture from condensing on the inside of windows.
- Remove all snow and ice from your vehicle before driving (including the roof).
- Bring a cell phone but do not leave it in the car as the battery will freeze or use it while driving.

Winter Safety Series

Scan the QR Code with your mobile device's camera for winter driving resources.

Scan the QR Code with your mobile device's camera for all BCFSC Crew Talks and to subscribe.

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