

# SEE-MORE SAFETY SAYS

## SURVIVING THE STORM:

### Tips for Driving in Bad Weather

Prepare for driving in bad weather before it happens – your life may depend on it. If you can, avoid driving in bad weather and wait until the roads are safe. If you must drive, use the following tips to help you prepare.

#### PREPARE YOUR VEHICLE

- Check fluid levels: brakes, battery, radiator
- (antifreeze), window washer, oil and transmission.
- Make sure your heater and defroster are in good working order and doors and windows are sealed properly.
- Replace your windshield wiper blades.
- Inspect your tires for tread wear, punctures or embedded debris such as nails.
- Carry emergency supplies in your vehicle: flashlight, flares, booster cables, ice/snow scraper, first aid kit, shovel, sand, salt, snow chains, blanket and water.



#### BAD WEATHER DRIVING TIPS

- Slow down: Give yourself more time to get to your destination.
- Be extra cautious when driving during the first rain after a dry spell. Oil and grease come to the road's surface, making it very slippery when wet.
- When braking in bad weather conditions, allow yourself three times as much distance as normal to reach a full stop and avoid skidding.
- Use low gears on slick surfaces, especially on hills and around curves.
- If your car skids, don't brake, unless you have an anti-lock braking system (ABS). Take your foot off the gas and gently turn your car in the direction you want it to go.
- Keep your headlights on during bad weather even if you can see; they help other motorists see you.
- Avoid using your high beams in fog.
- Clean your windshield and headlights often.
- If weather conditions worsen, pull over before you get stranded.
- If you get stuck in snow, avoid spinning your wheels-you'll only dig in deeper. Instead, shovel snow away from the wheel paths and place salt or sand around the drive wheel to improve traction.
- Always be aware of the other vehicles around you and be ready to react.