

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEFORE YOU HIT THE ROAD...

Check your vehicle — Make certain your truck has been examined and repaired under a 396.11 driver vehicle inspection report following its last run. All braking systems should be functioning, and tires should have sufficient treads.

Check your fuel supply — At least half-a-tank is recommended while on a run.

Check your visibility — Clean all ice and snow from your windows, mirrors, lights and roof before you begin – or restart – your trip.

Check your travel plan — Know your routes and learn the expected road conditions. Allow yourself additional time to reach your destination. For helpful information on weather and road conditions, go online to www.buckeyeTraffic.org.

DON'T CROWD THE PLOW!

Be alert — Always be on the lookout for the flashing amber lights on snowplows. Give plow drivers room to work: Watch for sudden stops or turns and use extreme caution if you must pass.

Watch your speed — Snowplows travel below the posted speed limit; be patient when sharing the road. Remember, *Ice and Snow...Take it Slow.*

Keep your distance — Snowplows sometimes work in tandem, following each other on the highway at close distances. Never try to pass between two plows.







DRIVING IN ICE AND SNOW

Smooth starts — Slow, easy starts can help your vehicle get a grip on the ice and eliminate many problems during winter driving.

Speed awareness — Expect others to drive more slowly than you during winter months. Share the road respectfully, and adjust your speed to current driving conditions.

Braking — Brake early, slowly, and correctly. In winter weather, required stopping distances can increase anywhere from three to 12 times normal. Always give yourself room for smooth, safe stops. Anti-lock brakes require pressing the pedal firmly and holding it. Otherwise, pump the pedal gently. Never slam on the brakes.

Control — Use extra caution when changing lanes. Wet road surfaces and black ice – a slick film of transparent ice that is difficult to see – can present unexpected hazards. Safe defensive driving skills can help prevent jackknifes and crashes.

Signs — Pay attention to messages on electronic highway advisory signs.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Ohio winter travel information can be found 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at www.BuckeyeTraffic.org. The site has weather alerts, real-time traffic cameras, driving conditions, road closures, and reports on traffic conditions and incidents. Before hitting the road, make sure you know the facts, and remember, local and Snow...Take it Slow..



Prepared in cooperation with the Ohio Trucking Association.