

ROAD TO SAFETY

Top-10 Tips For Foul-Weather Driving

(NAPSA)—Everyone knows that weather forecasting is a difficult challenge. Storms—whether rain, snow, sleet or ice—can appear suddenly.

That's why it is important for drivers to prepare themselves and their vehicles for driving on all types of road surfaces. Different roads offer a range of traction and grip—whether the surface is dry, rain soaked, snowy or ice covered.

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company has developed a Top-10 list for motorists to consider when preparing for the challenges of driving in inclement weather.

1. When adverse weather conditions strike, SLOW DOWN.

2. Use extra care when driving across bridges and overpasses, as these surfaces tend to be especially slippery.

3. Before the cold weather season sets in, have your heating-cooling system checked out to ensure a proper mix of antifreeze.

4. One of the basic elements in foul-weather driving, whether it's snow or rain, is good visibility. Be sure the vehicle has an ample supply of windshield-washer fluid and the wiper blades are in good working condition.

5. Maintain proper tire inflation throughout the year in order to maximize the tires' contact with the road. Find the recommended tire-inflation pressure on the driver's-side doorpost or in the glove box—not on the sidewall of the tire.

6. Consider carrying some emergency supplies in the vehicle. This could include a bag of sand and a small shovel, in case you get stuck. Having a well-charged cell



phone is advised, in order to call for emergency assistance.

7. Avoid sudden movements with the steering wheel, brake or accelerator when driving in potentially slippery conditions. If the vehicle does skid, ease off the gas, steer slightly into the skid and look at where you want the vehicle to go.

8. As in all driving conditions, refrain from talking on a cell phone when driving.

9. Always keep your vehicle's windows and lights cleaned. Clear ice and snow from all glass surfaces of the vehicle before even leaving your driveway or a parking lot.

10. Check the tread of your tires to be sure your vehicle will have enough grip and traction when you need it. If you live and drive in an area of severe snow, consider the use of winter tires or at least an extra-traction all-season product like Goodyear's line of tires with TripleTred Technology. A reputable local tire retailer can inspect your tires and advise you whether new treads are needed.

By following these tips, motorists have a chance to negotiate the tough and unpredictable weather that Mother Nature offers. For more information on tire safety, visit www.goodyeartires.com/kyt/tireSafety/ on the Internet.