



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

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TIP OF THE WEEK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WINTER DRIVING - PART 1

Welcome to winter!! Driving can be a little more hazardous during this time of year. That doesn't mean you have to stay home and hibernate until spring. It does mean, however, that it may take a little more time and planning than usual before heading out. The following information from ODOT comes from their [Oregon Winter Driving Guide](#).

TUNE UP YOUR VEHICLE

- Make sure your antifreeze is good to -25°. Check and fill your windshield washer and other fluids and make sure hoses are not loose or brittle.
- Keep your wipers clean and in good condition.
- Make sure your heater and defroster are working.
- Be sure your battery is fully charged and that cables are not loose nor corroded.
- Check to see that tires are properly inflated and in good condition.
- Carry chains or use traction devices. Look for signs indicating when chains or traction tires are required. Pull over to the right of the highway as far as possible or into a "chain up" area when required. (Tip: it's the law!)

TAKE YOUR TIME

- Before you go, check weather and road conditions at www.TripCheck.com. You can also call 5-1-1 for travel information.
- Let family or friends know your routes and destination. Then be sure to check in when you've safely arrived.
- Choose main routes and get plenty of rest before starting out. Remember that cell phone coverage may not be available in some areas.
- Keep your gas tank at least half full and keep your windows, lights, and mirrors cleared of any ice, snow or frost.
- Drive with your lights on at all times and reduce your speed.
- Watch out for snow plows! Following too close is dangerous for them and for you.
- Don't pass the snow plow or sanders! Be patient. Everyone wants to arrive safely where they are going.

Watch for next week's Winter Driving Tips which focus on how to drive safely in icy and snowy weather.

For more information and tips, visit our website at www.lincolncountysheriff.net and Like us on Facebook at Lincoln County Sheriff's Office – Oregon.