

## Are you prepared for winter driving conditions?

Road conditions at this time of year can change in minutes as severe weather conditions develop. Are you prepared for a winter driving emergency?

Here are some emergency weather driving tips from AAA:

### Avoid getting stranded; keep your car running smoothly

To keep your car from breaking down, AAA recommends checking the following:

- battery and ignition
- tires
- anti-freeze level and freeze line
- brakes; exhaust system
- fuel and air filters

At minimum, keep your gas tank at least half full to prevent freezing gas lines.

### Winterize your car

If your car breaks down or gets stuck in snow or ice, make certain you are carrying the following emergency equipment:

- working flashlight and batteries
- ice scraper and snow brush; snow shovel

*(continued, reverse side)*



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- first aid kit
- wool blankets
- drinking water
- non-perishable, high-energy protein foods
- booster cables
- emergency flares
- extra hats, socks and mittens
- tow chain or rope
- cell phone and car charger
- rock salt to melt ice
- sand to improve traction
- weather radio

Always let your loved ones know your destination and when you will be on the road. Follow weather reports for your destination prior to driving long distance or into remote areas.

### **What to do if you become stranded**

- Use your cell phone to call for help (if you can get cell service)
- If a stranger stops to help, keep your doors locked and your window rolled up as far as possible. If you are unable to call someone on your own, ask the stranger to call a trusted person for you. Do not accept a ride with someone you don't know.
- Stay inside your car (unless you know where you are and how long it takes to get to safe shelter)
- Make sure your car's exhaust pipe is not blocked
- Keep at least one window open slightly; heavy snow and ice can seal a car shut
- Stay warm with blankets. If you don't have blankets, use whatever you can — newspapers, floor mats or maps — to insulate your body from the cold.
- Stay hydrated



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