

## Driving Tips

Winter road conditions require your extra attention. Begin by staying off your cell phone. Drive at safe and legal speeds, staying alert and sober. **Remember buckling up helps ensure that you will make it safely to your destination.**

- Drive with your headlights on.
- Slow Down! Give yourself extra time to reach your destination when roads are slick. If at all possible, do not drive when the roads are icy. Consider delaying your trip.
- Leave room for maintenance vehicles and plows - stay at least 15 car lengths (200 feet) back and don't pass on the right.
- Watch for icy surfaces on bridges, even when the rest of the road seems to be in good condition.
- Look farther ahead in traffic. Actions by other drivers will alert you to problems and give you extra seconds to react.
- Trucks take longer to stop, so don't cut in front of them.
- Don't use your cruise control or overdrive when it's freezing (or colder).
- Don't get overconfident with four-wheel drive. It helps you get going quicker but won't help you stop any faster.
- Don't pump anti-lock brakes. The right way is to "stomp and steer." Be patient with fellow drivers coming and going to the University, as we are all in this together.

## Campus Parking Lots

- In the event of a winter storm, please realize that the Physical Plant will be working throughout most of the day and night to try to eliminate the ice and snow from the roads and parking lots of the campus.
- If possible, please remove your vehicle each night from the parking lot to promote the clearing of snow and ice. Vehicles left in lots often become entrapped by ice and snow drifts during winter storms.

## Winter Walking Tips

While the Physical Plant strives to keep the roads and public walkways ice and snow free, climatic conditions in Northwest Missouri often make this a formidable task. Maintenance personnel perform daily checks during these conditions to review the freeze/thaw cycle and address any hazardous situations that may develop.

Physical Plant uses a variety of snowplows, tractors, and de-icing materials and equipment to achieve this goal. By following established safety guidelines and being prepared, many accidents can be prevented. We have prepared some basic guidelines and information which may help you endure the winter weather and prevent an accident.

- Wear boots or flexible overshoes with grip soles. Slick leather or hard rubber soles on dress shoes are unsafe on ice.
- Don't walk with your hands in your pocket. This reduces your balance if you slip on the ice.

- Take short to medium steps or shuffle your feet in very icy areas.
- Don't carry or swing heavy loads, such as large boxes or cases, which could cause you to lose your balance when walking.
- If the walkway appears to be icy, temporarily step off into the grass and negotiate a path around the hazard.
- Don't step on uneven surfaces. Step well over or avoid curbs with ice on them.
- Place your full attention on walking. Don't allow your attention to be diverted by getting keys out of your pocket, digging into your wallet for items, etc., while walking on ice.
- Don't become complacent when you don't see a lot of snow – 1 inch can be just as dangerous as 6 inches!

Remember, the best source of safety for anyone during the winter months is personal self-awareness. Taking a few minutes each winter morning to review these tips may help prevent an unwanted accident.

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