



Madison County Sheriff's Office

Allen Riley, Sheriff

Dedicated to improving the quality
of life for the citizens of Madison
County.

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WINTER DRIVING TIPS



from the 

Madison County

Sheriff's Office

**PREPARE
PROTECT
&
PREVENT**



* PREVENT CRASHES

- * As always: drugs and alcohol don't mix with driving—it is worse on slippery roads
- * Slow Down and increase distances between cars
- * Keep your eyes open for pedestrians walking in the road
- * Get plenty of rest/Avoid fatigue
- * Stop every three hours
- * Rotate drivers.

PREPARE :

* MAINTAIN YOUR CAR

Is your battery good?

Tires? Tread okay? Do you need snow tires?

See and be seen—keep your windows clear of snow and ice

Put “no-freeze” fluid in your washer reservoir

Check your cooling system’s anti-freeze

* HAVE ON HAND

Flashlight

Jumper cables

Abrasive material (like sand, kitty litter, traction mats, even floor mats)

Shovel

Warning devices (flares, reflectors, etc)

Blankets

Snow Brush/Ice Scraper

* LONG TRIP? ADD:

Food

Water

Medications

Cellphone

* STOPPED OR STALLED?

Stay in your car

Don’t over exert

Put bright marker on antenna/in window/shine dome light

Clear exhaust pipe, if you run your car

Run your car just long enough to remove the chill

* PLAN YOUR ROUTE

Be familiar with the maps/directions to avoid confusion

Check the weather reports and adjust starting time

Let others know how you are coming and when you will arrive

* NEW TO COLD WEATHER DRIVING? PRACTICE!

In a wide open snow or ice-covered parking lot, during daylight hours, rehearse slow driving maneuvers

Steer into a skid

Know what your brakes will do

With antilock brakes, stomp and steer

Without ABS, pump the brakes to avoid wheel lock-up

Slow Down, Stopping distances are longer on snow/ice covered roadways

Don’t be tempted to start your car in an enclosed space or idle for a long time with the windows up

* PROTECT YOURSELF

Buckle Up

Use Child Safety Seats properly

Never place a rear-facing seat in front of an air bag

The safest place for all children 12 and under is in the back seat

Sit back 10 inches from an air bag