

Winter Driving BEST PRACTICES



Safe Driving Points

- Limited visibility with fog
- 8 to 12 seconds following distance
- Look 1/4 mile ahead
- Stay in right lane
- Don't travel on the shoulder
- Control your speed
- Watch for iced bridges

Do's and Don'ts

- Do use all brakes in combination
- Don't use exhaust brake
- Don't use trailer hand brake
- Do use proper gears going downhill
- Do drive slowly with chains on dry pavement



Indicators Chains are Needed

- When it's legally required
- Snow on oncoming vehicles
- CB traffic
- Changing weather and road conditions
- Having a safe chain up location
- State Police are stopping drivers

Putting on Your Chains

- Pick a safe pull-out area
- Use 3-point dismount
- Use proper PPE
- Warm-up and stretch muscles
- Think about which way to roll
- Keep chain attachments clear
- Mark tire and move 90 degrees
- Connect each rail
- Tighten cam-locks
- Roll 15 ft forward then retighten
- Retighten in a safe area
- Install bungees to help keep snug



Driving with Chains

- Don't exceed 35 mph
- Be careful on dry pavement
- Don't get overconfident
- Leave window cracked open
- Use 8-12 second rule
- Practice speed management

Removing Your Chains

- Find a safe spot for removal
- Use your PPE gear
- Take off the right side first
- Roll off tail, not clamps
- Inspect for broken links
- Hang properly for next time



PPE Personal Protective Equipment Checklist

- ☒ Head Lamp
- ☒ Shovel
- ☒ Reflective Vest
- ☒ Food & Water
- ☒ Stocking Cap
- ☒ Coveralls
- ☒ Rubber Gloves
- ☒ Eye Protection
- ☒ Ear Protection
- ☒ Foot Protection

Pre-Season Equipment Checklist

- ☒ Chains in good repair
 - Cross links in good condition
 - Hooks not damaged
- ☒ Chains are organized on the truck for easy use

Pre-Trip Checklist

- ☒ Check with dispatch
- ☒ Know your routing
- ☒ Know chain-up areas
- ☒ Check weather and road conditions
- ☒ Know fuel stops
- ☒ Check anti-freeze
- ☒ Winterized wind-shield fluid