

# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



## Winter Safety Starts with Sensible Choices

*Plan your travel route and let someone know your plans and what time you leave. Give yourself extra time and know the weather and road conditions between where you are and where you're going, before you start your trip.*

**Check conditions by visiting [travel.dot.nd.gov](http://travel.dot.nd.gov), texting 511, or by downloading the ND Roads app.**



- Never travel on closed roads – it is against the law to go around road closure gates.
- Don't use GPS to find another route – if roads are closed due to weather conditions, secondary roads are not cleared and traveling on them is extremely hazardous.

- Don't CROWD the plow – snow plows travel slowly, make wide turns, stop often, overlap lanes, and exit the road frequently. The road behind an active snow plow is safer for driving. If you are behind a snowplow, stay behind it or use caution when passing, especially in a "snow fog."



If you're stalled, stay with your vehicle – DO NOT walk for help, it is safer to stay with your vehicle. Call 911 and wait for help. Clear the exhaust pipe of any snow and run it only sporadically – just long enough to stay warm.

## More Advice for the Road

- Slow down – observe speed limits AND drive for the road conditions.
- Be aware of changing road conditions.
- Increase following distance – 8 to 10 seconds is a good rule to follow.
- Do NOT use cruise control on compacted snow or in icy conditions.
- Accelerate and decelerate slowly.
- Control steering – if you're skidding, steer in the direction of the skid and do not overcorrect.
- ABS brakes – apply firm steady pressure on brake pedal.
- Turn your lights on – especially during snowy blizzard conditions.
- Always buckle up – buckle up in the front and back, make sure children are correctly restrained.

Emergency: Dial 9-1-1  
Road Info: Dial 5-1-1

NORTH  
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