

**SAFETY IS AN INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE.**

Everything starts with Safety at IEC

 **Driving in Winter Weather**

Toolbox Talk # 5032

The roads are a dangerous place on even the nicest day, but in the winter, the dangers of driving can increase dramatically. According to the Department of Transportation, [winter weather conditions](https://www.safetytalkideas.com/safetytalks/winter-weather/)are responsible for over 192,000 injuries and 2,200 deaths each year. Outside injury and loss of life, winter weather conditions are responsible for millions of dollars in property damage incidents.

### **Winter Weather Overview**

The majority of the United States and its population are located in an area that [**receives snow**](https://www.safetytalkideas.com/safetytalks/cold-stress/) or ice during the winter months. While most of the population has experienced driving in snowy or icy conditions, many individuals do not know how to drive safely in winter weather conditions. The hazards created by winter weather make it hard for even the most experienced drivers to operate a [vehicle](https://www.safetytalkideas.com/safety-talks/motor-vehicle-safety/) safely.

### **Tips for Avoiding a Winter Weather-Related Accident**

* Monitor weather for any incoming snow storms or icy conditions and plan your travel around those conditions. Do not put yourself in a situation where you are stuck on a roadside.
* Do not drive in wintery conditions if possible. Eliminating driving eliminates your chances of being in an accident.
* Be a defensive driver. Stay clear of other drivers and maintain a safe distance in case you need to brake or turn to avoid an accident.
* Slow down. Winter weather conditions necessitate having to reduce your speed. Reducing your speed will give you more time to react as well as help to avoid losing control of your vehicle.

The best way to avoid an accident during the winter months is to avoid driving in dangerous conditions. If you absolutely have to drive in bad weather conditions, travel main roads that have already been plowed and salted. Notify your supervisor if necessary to alert him or her you will be late for work due to road conditions. Take your time getting to your destination.

Please read and understand this important document and sign on the reverse side that you have done so.

YOUR SIGNATURE ON THE REVERSE SIDE INDICATES THAT YOU HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT.

Phone 614-473-1050 email: JVan@IECCentralOH.org website: [www.ieccentraloh.org](http://www.ieccentraloh.org)



Attendance – Toolbox Talk

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Topic: Driving in Winter Weather

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