

Winter Roads: Be Prepared, Be Safe

Every winter we are surprised by a winter storm. New York, winter weather can be a bit tricky. Aside from the cold weather and holidays around the corner, winter can also bring nasty road conditions. To be prepared this winter, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Stay alert, slow down, be safe, stay in control.
- Get your vehicle winter-ready with a maintenance check-up. Don't wait for winter to have your battery, belts, hoses, radiator, oil, lights, brakes, tires, exhaust system, heater/defroster, wipers, and ignition system checked.
- Keep your fuel tank sufficiently full — at least half a tank is recommended.
- Make sure you have windshield washer fluid in the reservoir that is rated a minimum of -25°F. Keep an extra jug in the vehicle.
- Have your tires checked before winter begins. Remember to check tire air pressure frequently, as it decreases in cold weather.
- Have a winter survival kit in your vehicle:
 - Blanket
 - Water and non-perishable food
 - Ice scraper
 - Flashlight
 - Traction aids
 - Tow rope
 - First aid kit

If you are traveling a long distance, plan your route ahead of time. Let someone know of your destination and expected time of arrival. Be safe.

