

DRIVER SAFETY TIP WET ROAD HAZARDS

“SPRING SHOWERS BRING SPRING FLOWERS”

Unfortunately, that is not all that the showers bring. Showers bring wet roads and wet roads can bring accidents if you are not alert to the increased hazards of wet roads.



The first few minutes of a rain shower increase the hazard of driving on various road surfaces.

Oil and other fluids dripped onto the roadway by vehicles floats to the surface of the rain on the roadway, forming a very slippery film.

The defensive driver knows the solution is to slow down, increase following distance and scan the roadway ahead, keeping alert to the driving conditions.

It takes longer to stop on a wet road due to the coefficient of friction. The solution to this problem includes slowing down and allowing a greater following distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead.

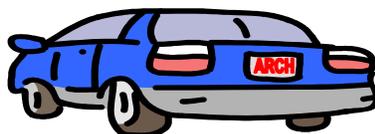


Full attention must be given to driving, no more “30 second vacations behind the wheel”. When our minds wander we decrease our ability to make the judgments and reactions needed to avoid accidents. A car travels 90 feet per second at 60 mph. If we are not paying attention, we can be upon a hazard before we know it.

Here are a few ways to insure that your vehicle is ready for rainy weather:

- ◆ If you have streaks on the windshield, it's time for new wiper blades.
- ◆ Keep the washer fluid level near full.
- ◆ Check the condition of your tires regularly.
- ◆ Proper tread depth and inflation is critical to driving on wet slick roads.
- ◆ Remember to keep your headlights on during adverse weather, daytime as well as nighttime.
- ◆ A good rule to follow is “if your wipers are needed then your headlights should be on”.

IF THE DOWNPOUR IS SEVERE, SAFELY EXIT.



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