

PennDOT Reminds Motorists to Adjust Habits, Prepare for Winter Driving

With snow forecast for some areas of Pennsylvania within the next day, PennDOT reminds drivers to slow down and give snow plows a wide berth to do their job.

Motorists are reminded that during winter weather events, PennDOT's primary goal is to keep roads passable, not completely free of ice and snow. Roadways such as interstates and expressways are the primary focus and, at times, PennDOT may redirect equipment to these routes during significant winter events. All roadways will continue to be treated throughout winter events until after precipitation stops and roads are clear.

Drivers must slow down and lengthen their following distance when traveling on snowy or icy roads. Also, motorists are advised to pack an emergency kit that includes items such as non-perishable food, water, first-aid supplies, warm clothes, a blanket and small snow shovel. Motorists should tailor their kit to any specific need they or their family may have. Items such as baby supplies, extra medication, pet supplies, a spare cell phone or even children's games could be included.

When preparing for snowy travel, motorists can check road conditions on Pennsylvania interstate highways and major expressways by calling 511 or visiting www.511PA.com. 511PA, which is free and available 24 hours a day, provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, average traffic speeds on urban interstates and expressways, and access to more than 500 traffic cameras.

The 511 site also provides easy-to-use, color-coded winter road conditions for all routes covered in the 511 reporting network.