

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | March 22, 2024

## **IMPENDING WINTER STORM**

**NARRATIVE:** The North Dakota Highway Patrol (NDHP) along with the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) is alerting motorists for potentially dangerous traveling conditions for the next several days due to the impending storm.

It is anticipated the southwest and southcentral areas of the state will receive significant snowfall with strong, sustained winds. The combination of snow and high wind will make travel dangerous and potentially impossible.

The NDHP will increase staffing to provide assistance as needed, but motorists are cautioned that emergency response may be delayed and not possible at times. Motorists intending to travel this weekend are encouraged to check emergency travel kits to make sure it includes a phone charger, food, water, and warm clothing in the event you are stranded for a significant amount of time. If you become stranded, all passengers should remain in the vehicle with seat belts on. Call 911 to provide location information. Prior to running the car's engine occasionally to keep warm, make sure the area behind the tailpipe is cleared of snow and debris.

Before traveling, let someone know the direction you are traveling and when you plan to arrive. Check current road conditions before you go:  
<https://travel.dot.nd.gov/>.

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**For More Information Contact:**

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**SHOVEL**



**CANDLES & MATCHES**



**EXTRA BLANKETS**



**FIRST AID KIT**



# HOW TO PREPARE FOR WINTER DRIVING

## What's in Your Emergency Kit?

### Other Considerations:

- Handwarmers
- Tow Strap
- Kitty Litter
- Ice Scraper
- Extra Clothing (Hat, gloves, heavy coat, sweatshirt, boots)
- Sleeping Bag
- Road Flares
- Toilet Paper
- Gas line
- Antifreeze
- Plastic whistle
- Cash
- Pocket Knife



**CELL PHONE & CHARGER**



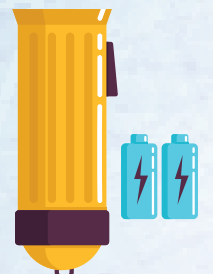
**FOOD & WATER**



**JUMPER CABLES**



**FLASHLIGHT & BATTERIES**



**travel.dot.nd.gov**  
(ND Roads App)

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

# 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.

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NORTH  
**Dakota**  
Be Legendary.™

ND Response