

In advance of the significant snowfall we are expecting this week, here are some reminders for motorists:

- **Do not travel unless absolutely necessary** - if you do have to make a trip, check the forecast and make sure someone is aware of your travel route.
- **Don't crowd the plow - a snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not see you.**
- Watch out for black ice roads that appear clear but can be treacherous. Take it slow when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges, and shady areas - all are prone to black ice.
- Keep your gas tank at least two-thirds full to prevent the vehicle's fuel line from freezing.
- Carry an emergency car care kit that contains jumper cables, flares or reflectors, windshield washer fluid, a small ice scraper, traction material, blankets, non-perishable food and a first aid kit.
- Carry a cell phone and dial *999 for roadway assistance.
- Always wear a safety belt.
- You can get interstate condition information by calling 1-800-452-IDOT (4368) or visiting www.gettingaroundillinois.com and clicking on the "Winter road Conditions" icon.

IDOT will have snow plows and salt trucks out on the roads in advance of, during, and after the storm. We are prepared for the storm and have a full staff on hand as well as a full supply of salt. Still, because of this storm's potential, non-essential travel is strongly discouraged.

Motorists should not expect roads to be clear during this time due to the large amount of snow that is expected and the potential drifting afterwards. If you must travel: take it slow, allow plenty of extra time for your commute, and expect it to take much longer than normal to get where you need to go.

Thank you.