



News Release
Ashland Police Department
www.ashlandpolice.us
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With the impending winter weather upon us the Ashland Police Department is notifying the community to prepare themselves in advance and we urge all motorists to use extra caution when driving. We recommend the following tips for your home and while driving during winter storms and extreme cold weather.

Thoroughly check your family's emergency supply kit and make sure it includes adequate clothing/blankets.

If you have a car, fill the gas tank in case you have to leave in an emergency.

*Plan to stay inside during the extreme cold and precipitation, **bring your pets inside and check on elderly neighbors.***

If you have a wood burning fire place, consider storing wood to keep you warm if winter weather knocks out your heat. Please do not leave a fire burning unattended in a fireplace or woodstove. If you use a generator or space heater please practice proper safety procedures.

Winter Weather Driving Tips

- *Before beginning your trip, know the current road conditions and weather forecast. For statewide highway information 24 hours a day, call 511 or go to 511virginia.org.*
- *Keep your car's windows, mirrors and lights clear of snow and ice.*
- *Leave a few minutes early and always wear your safety belt.*
- ***Drive slowly** and be aware of potentially icy areas such as shady spots and bridges.*
- *Keep a safe distance of at least five seconds behind other vehicles and trucks that are plowing the road. Don't pass a snowplow or spreader unless it is absolutely necessary.*
- *Keep an emergency winter driving kit in your car and for more driving tips go to <http://www.virginiadot.org/programs/faq-winterdrive.asp>*

Following these safety tips should help keep us all safe as we continue through this winter season.
