#### WHAT DO TRACTION ADVISORIES MEAN?

#### **Traction Tires Advised:**

Oversize loads prohibited from roadways. Commercial Vehicle Services and load information:



wsdot.wa.gov/commercialvehicle

## **Traction Tires Required:**

All passenger vehicles must have approved traction tires.\* Chains required on all vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds, including large passenger trucks, SUVs and RVs.



### **Tire Chains Required:**

All vehicles must have approved tire chains, except four- and all-wheel-drive vehicles.\*\* Violators face a \$500 fine.



#### **Chains Required On All Vehicles:**

During extreme weather, **ALL** vehicles must install chains when this is posted — even 4WD/AWD.



Anyone traveling through high elevations or winter conditions should carry chains in their vehicle. When weather conditions are extreme, ALL vehicles may be required to install chains — even 4WD/AWD. Studded tires do not meet chain requirements.

\* Approved traction tires must have at least an eighth of an inch of tread and be labeled M+S, All Season, or have a Mountain/Snowflake symbol. These tires can be used all year. When you install approved chains, any tire becomes a traction tire. For more information on traction tire options, contact your local tire dealer.



\*\* 4WD and AWD must still CARRY chains during this advisory level or face a violation and fine. (Washington Administrative Code 204-24-050)

ADA Information: This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the Office of Equal Opportunity at wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov or by calling toll free, 855-362-4ADA(4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.

# APPROVED ALTERNATIVE TRACTION DEVICES

The following are state-approved alternative traction devices. Consult your owner's manual and the Washington State Patrol website www.wsp. wa.gov/driver/vehicle-equipment-requirements/

#### Passenger vehicles

- AutoSock
- Polaire Grip
- Grip Tex
- Polaire Steel
- ISSE Safety
- SOS Grip

## Front wheel drive vehicles only

Easy Grip EVO

# Commercial vehicles (less than five axles)

- AutoSock
- ISSE Safety

Commercial vehicles (five or more axles)

AutoSock

#### KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Subscribe, Follow, Listen











Download the WSDOT app or subscribe to email or text alerts: wsdot.wa.gov/inform

- Follow WSDOT social media accounts: wsdot.wa.gov/inform
- Call 511 for travel information and mountain pass conditions
- Program your radio to WSDOT's Highway Advisory Radio: 530 AM and 1610 AM
- WSDOT Winter Info.: wsdot.com/winter
- WSDOT Newsroom: wsdot.wa.gov/news
- Mountain Pass Reports:

Online: wsdot.com/traffic/passes

Twitter: @wsdot\_passes

- Cameras & Traffic Alerts: wsdot.com/traffic
- Weather: wsdot.com/traffic/weather









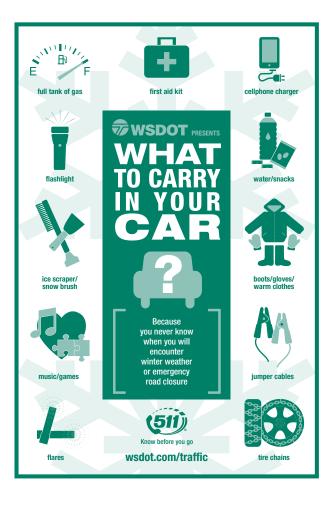
# WINTER DRIVING GUIDE



# WHAT'S INSIDE

- Prepare for Winter Driving
- What to Carry on Winter Trips
- Tires and Chains
- Roadway Advisories





# WINTER TRAVEL: PREPARE, EQUIP, FILL UP

Winter travel can be tough on you and your car. Are you prepared? Make sure you:

- Get a winter maintenance check-up. Check your tires, battery, belts, hoses, radiator, lights, brakes, heater/defroster and wipers.
- Talk to your tire dealer about which tires are the best match for your car and your travel.
- Fill up your gas tank before heading out, so you'll have plenty of gas if delayed in a road closure.

#### WINTER TRAVEL: ON THE ROAD

- Carry chains. Find out which chains (includes cable chains), or approved alternatives, fit your vehicle and practice installing them.
- Studded tires do NOT meet the chain requirement. Even vehicles equipped with studded tires need to carry chains in winter conditions.



### STUDDED TIRE INFORMATION

Washington only allows studded tires from Nov. 1 through March 31. There is no individual exception to the studded tire dates and violators face a \$136 fine. WSDOT may extend the deadline if forecasts indicate severe winter weather conditions are likely across much of the state.

#### **DRIVING IN SNOW AND ICE**

- Slow down and drive for conditions.
- Turn on headlights.
- Focus on driving. Don't use cruise control.
- Leave extra room between vehicles.
- Slow down when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady spots.
- Snowplow drivers have a limited field of vision.
  Stay back 15 car lengths until you're sure it is safe to pass or until the plow pulls off the road.
- Obey chain up notices violators face a \$500 fine. Many pass closures are due to slide outs from drivers without proper equipment.
- Not confident about your vehicle or winter driving skills? Consider delaying travel plans.

