



Vehicle Accidents Prevention Guide

LGIT has over 450 auto collision claims per year. The vast majority are preventable. The purpose of this bulletin is to increase awareness to help reduce the frequency of these preventable accidents. During the winter season likelihood of these accidents go up each time it snows. The following are some simple suggestions to reduce the prospect that YOU will be involved in the next preventable vehicle accident.

ACCIDENTS on SNOW AND ICE (please review **EACH TIME** there is a snow event in the forecast)

1. Temperatures between 28 & 36 degrees are the most critical temperatures. That is when the conditions of the roadway and your vehicles traction and stopping ability varies the most.
2. **SLOW DOWN** The speed limit will likely no longer be safe for conditions.
3. Test your brakes prior to intersections or your need to use them.
4. Clear all windows, mirrors, headlights AND brake lights of snow and ice before driving.
5. Always wear seatbelts and use headlights day and night.
6. Remember that antilock brakes are ineffective on ice - **SLOW DOWN**.
7. Be extremely cautious on hills. You need to NOT ONLY be able to stop, but to maneuver out of the way of other vehicles who may be out of control.
8. Intersections will tend to be the slipperiest, brake well in advance of the intersection. It is better to stop just short of the intersection than to slide into one.
9. Anticipate that turns will be slippery due to previous cars sliding. Steer early in the turn.
10. Avoid sharp turns of the wheel.
11. Anticipate that other drivers will be unable to stop at intersections.
12. Snow banks may have something hidden beneath them. Do not run over them unless you are positive there is nothing there and that it is safe to do so.
13. Remember that slush on the road can be even more dangerous than snow pack. **SLOW DOWN**
14. Snow plows throw snow. Move over when possible and **SLOW DOWN**.
15. When the roads BEGIN to get slick **NOTIFY DISPATCH or follow your weather emergency policy** to alert all **drivers** as to the worsening road conditions.
16. If sliding, consider steering onto cinders or sand that may be present on the roadway. They will greatly increase your ability to stop and steer.