

# WINTER WEATHER DRIVING SAFETY TIP:



## Know the Different Ice Conditions Before You Hit the Road in Winter

Winter driving can be inconvenient, annoying, infuriating and even dangerous. But you can offset those aggravations and minimize the dangerous risks with some valuable information:

### ICE

- Expect icy conditions any time the outside air temperature reaches 40 degrees F or lower.
- Although water freezes at 32 degrees F, road surfaces can freeze when the air temperature drops to 40 degrees or less. Bridges and raised highways are most susceptible to this condition.
- Elevated surfaces are more exposed to the wind and cool off faster than the rest of the road. Also be prepared for icy conditions on roads through shaded areas where a cold wind and lack of solar melting can freeze a wet road surface.

### WHITE ICE

- Snow that has been compacted during the day and has slightly melted will freeze at night. Usually this white ice can be seen on the road.
- When traveling on white ice, drive very slowly. If you cannot find a place to park until conditions improve, install tire chains for better traction.

### BLACK ICE

- Black ice is clear water that has frozen on black pavement, usually forming below overpasses, on bridges, and in areas that are surrounded by landscape or on a source of water running across pavement.
- Black ice commonly occurs in low, shaded areas and/or when the road surface starts to freeze at night. You usually cannot see or feel this ice until the vehicle is already on it. You may not expect a patch of ice because you've been driving on dry, clear pavement. It may be an area where melting snow or a roadside spring caused water to run onto the road and freeze. If you are not aware that the water has frozen, you could lose control and the vehicle could skid.
- The general rule is to do as little as possible and allow the car to pass over the ice. Do not hit the brakes, and try to keep the steering wheel straight.

### ONLINE LOSS CONTROL

Mover's Choice Online offers a variety of loss control videos and online courses that explain how winter conditions present additional hazards for drivers. Topics include traction, steering and braking, danger zones, and winter preparation.

Access your training site from the [Mover's Choice Training Portal](#)