

If your vehicle is stuck in a snow bank:

- Don't spin your wheels...turn them from side to side to push snow out of the way.
- Use a light touch on the gas to ease your car out.
- Grab a shovel to clear snow away from the wheels and the underside of the car. Sand or kitty litter helps with traction.
- Rocking the vehicle may damage the transmission.

When your rear wheels begin to skid:

- Take your foot OFF the accelerator and steer IN to the direction you want the front wheels to go. You might have to steer left and right a few times to completely regain control.
- Never "pump" anti-lock brakes, instead, apply steady pressure. You'll feel the brakes pulse — this is normal.

Don't assume your SUV can handle all conditions, regardless of weather:

- Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on slick roads.
- You'll stay in control if you slow down.
- Keep your lights and windshield clean.
- Don't use cruise control on icy roads and use low gears to keep traction on hills.

Winter driving in Central Illinois poses a challenge for everyone, so:

- Slow down. Posted speed limits are for DRY pavement.
- Always buckle up.
- Keep your gas tank at least half-full.
- Don't pass other vehicles on or near bridges.
- Remember that driving is most dangerous when temperatures are near 32 degrees.