



The East Side Flyer

www.eastsidefire.com

March 2019

ICE AND SNOW - TAKE IT SLOW

Seriously, I didn't think I would be bringing up snow and ice reminders in March. Spring is on the way, I can feel it. In the meantime, here are some reminders.

- ♦ **SLOW DOWN.** Slower speeds, slower accelerations, slower steering and slower braking keep us all safer.
- ♦ Wear your seatbelt.
- ♦ Don't crowd the snowplow. The operator's field of vision is restricted. Don't assume he can see you.
- ♦ **NEVER** use cruise control in snowy or icy conditions.
- ♦ Watch out for black ice. Be especially careful approaching intersections, ramps, bridges and shady areas which are all prone to ice development.
- ♦ Don't travel during bad weather unless it is absolutely necessary. Make friends or family aware of your travel plans and route.
- ♦ Carry a cell phone and car charger but please don't use it while driving.
- ♦ Carry your winter emergency kit equipped with an ice scraper, jumper cables, traction material, flares or reflectors, blankets, non-perishable food and a first-aid kit.



SNOW, SNOW AND MORE SNOW



So, the snow and frigid temperatures find you staying at home, heating your house, plowing or shoveling snow. Don't fret. There are more things to consider while we await spring's thaw and flowers.

- ♦ Freezing water pipes – in the event this happens in your home, call a plumber who will safely remedy the problem. **DO NOT** use a torch, which is likely to ignite nearby flammables.
- ♦ If your road is not county-maintained or maintained by other sources, make sure it is plowed when necessary. While you may think it unnecessary because you aren't planning on going anywhere, if there is an emergency, response vehicles – medical and fire – may not be able to reach you.
- ♦ Snow plows often obscure or limit access to fire hydrants. If there is a hydrant near your home, please make sure it has a 3-foot radius that has been cleared of snow for emergency vehicle access.
- ♦ Keep an eye on the amount of snow on the roof of your house and outbuildings. While most homes built with a building permit are designed for 40 pounds/square foot minimum roof snowload, many manufactured homes are designed for only 30 pounds/square foot.
- ♦ Generally speaking, saturated snow weighs about 20 pounds/cubic foot.
- ♦ If you travel during the winter months, arrange to keep your driveway cleared of snow. In the event of a fire, it still needs to be accessible by emergency personnel.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME - MARCH 10
Don't forget to set your clocks forward!

