



# BLACK ICE

## Spotting this winter driving danger

Learning the conditions that can create black ice can help determine if this winter driving danger may be present. Black ice often develops between sunset and sunrise but, depending on the outside temperature, it could form during daily light hours as well. If the pavement has dark, glossy spots it is likely there is black ice present. Black ice is difficult to see in the dark so drivers should be aware of the weather conditions as well as checking road reports. The prime location for black ice to form is shaded or tree-covered parts of the roadway as well as bridges and overpasses.

## Tips for driving in snow and ice

- Know your comfort levels and don't push them
- Always remove snow from your car
- Invest in snow gear such as studded tires or chains
- Slow down and allow a sufficient following distance for safe braking
- Don't panic, brake slowly
- Watch for black ice
- Know the road conditions and avoid dangerous routes
- Give yourself plenty of extra time
- If you are new to driving in winter weather, practice

Source: National Safety Council, Accuweather.com and defensivedriving.org

## Safety Tips for Driving on Black Ice

**Keep at least a five-second following distance from the vehicle in front of you**

**Never hit the brakes on ice, hold the wheel steady. Don't overcorrect your steering if you feel your car sliding.**

**Be vigilant when weather conditions are right for black ice to occur.**

**Take caution when driving on bridges, overpasses and through tunnels**

### ROADSIDE KITS

Fully charged cell phone  
Ice scraper and shovel  
First aid kit  
Orange safety triangle  
Flares  
Jumper cables  
Flashlight  
Sturdy, warm gloves  
Blanket  
Water  
Energy bars