

## Adverse Driving Condition

Extreme weather conditions are characterized by two factors:

**Reduced Tracton:** The friction of a tire on the highway is called traction

**Reduced Visibility:** Visibility involved in your ability to distinguish objects sharing the highway with you.

There are two rules you should remember when you are driving in extreme conditions:

**Reduce speed** – you are more likely to stay in control if you take it slow

**Increase your following distance-** giving yourself enoguh room in imporatnat, but it is vital in bad weather when your stopping distance is increased

**Driving in Rain:** Rain slick roads are by far the most common reduced-traction situation drivers face. Be prepared to handle them. Reduce your speed, extend your following distance so you have more time to stop in case you have to.

**Driving In/On Snow:** Snowy conditions cause reduced traction and poor visibility. Both conditions demand driving skill and good judgment in adjusting to them. Just as ice varies in hazard level, driving in snow varies in difficulty also. The closer to freezing point, the more hazardous the snow becomes.

Easy does it should be the general rule when you are driving in snow. Steering and braking should also be done carefully and smoothly to minimize the chance for skins on snow-covered roads.

**Driving in Fog:** The number one rule when visibility is severely reduced, such as fog, is to slow down. Fog also cuts down on your ability to judge distance. Vehicles ahead or other hazards may actually be closer than they appear to be. This fact alone makes maintaining a sufficient gap between you and other vehicles important.

Use your lights and wipers, and listen to the road. You may want to partially roll down your window to hear road noise. When visibility is poor, anything you can do to improve your perception of your surroundings is a plus.