



SAFETY ALERT, No.07-December 2009

Driving in Fog

Dense FOG is the leading cause of weather-related traffic accidents during the winter season. Here is how to drive safely in fog.

While foggy, the best advice for driving is to delay the trip until conditions improve. Of course this is not always the case, especially when fog suddenly comes down on you as it has tendency to do. It's therefore wise to assume that fog could happen at any time and to be prepared for it by taking precautions and knowing what to do when on the road. Reduce your speed and do not overtake in fog.

Be Aware of Local Weather Conditions. Fog is often a morning or evening weather phenomena, so if possible, avoid driving during these times. Also be aware of local areas that tend to accumulate fog. Do not start your journey if it is foggy.

Allow More Distance Between Vehicles. Keep a safe distance between you and the vehicle in front. Your braking distance is greatly increased in wet condition. Never rush or speed to get out of the fog.

Use caution at all times. The moisture in the air may continuously collect on the windshield, making it more difficult to see. Adjust the defroster and windshield wiper speed as necessary.

Use your low beams. The visibility in front of you will sharply decrease in a fog, so use the vehicle's *low beam* lights. Heavy fog conditions prohibit use of high beam headlights. The light from high beam headlights will be reflected back by thick fog. Also switch on your high intensity rear lights.

Don't Drift. There's a natural tendency to wander into the middle of the road when visibility gets bad. Be sure to keep yourself in your lane.

Beware of Critters. Animals-- feel bolder under cover of fog and are much harder to see.

Pull over to the side of the road if you have no visibility. If it gets too difficult or thick, pull off the road, park at safe distance. Turning on your hazard lights alerts other drivers of where you are.

Safe Journey Management. Journey Manager shall not authorize journeys when fog is reported or expected.

