



November – Law of the Month

Winter travel

With the temperatures dropping, the roads will be getting slippery before we know it and crashes and runoffs tend to rise over the next few months as a result. It is important to follow the posted speed limit while traveling in these road conditions if not slower. Just because the roads may look fine, doesn't mean they are. There are often unexpected ice spots that can cause loss of control in your vehicle.

It is also important to keep your vehicle's windows clear of snow before you travel. Even if you are in a rush, snow and ice on the windows can block your view and cause accidents. Make sure to have a good snow brush/scrapper in your vehicle for the ice and snow. Don't think just because you are driving a short distance or you don't have enough time, that you shouldn't brush off your vehicle completely.

State statutes:

State law 346.57(2) states that "No person shall drive a vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions." You should drive at a speed where you're in good control of your vehicle. If the roads are icy, just because the speed limit sign says 55mph, doesn't mean you should go 55mph. Drive at a speed that matches with the weather conditions.

State law 346.88(4) states that "The windshield, side wings and side and rear windows of a motor vehicle shall be kept reasonably clean at all times." Like stated before, even if you are running late, take the time to brush and scrape any snow or ice off.