

Winter Travel Tips

With winter upon us it's time again to think about winter travel safety. Staying home during bad weather is the number one way to avoid problems but we can't always do that. Here are a few tips to keep you safe this winter. First be prepared. Keep an emergency travel kit in your vehicle, items that should be in that kit are booster cables, blankets, ice scraper, shovel, first aid kit, bottled water, non-perishable food, candles, matches, hats, gloves and a flashlight with extra batteries. Have a fully charged cell phone with a charger before you leave.

Second check the forecast and road conditions before traveling. Most states have websites that will display road conditions. The Iowa and Minnesota sites are Iowa-www.511ia.org and Minnesota is-
www.511mn.org.

Third, be careful. Make sure that you clear snow and ice from all windows as well as from your lights and license plates. Travel only as fast as conditions allow. Keep your gas tank full. If you become stuck call local law enforcement {641} 324-2481 or 911 even if you have help coming to let us know so that we are not looking for someone when they have left their vehicle or so we can assist in getting you back on your way. Officers spend a lot of time trying to locate people that have left their vehicle to make sure that they are safe. If you are running your vehicle until help arrives for warmth run it in intervals to save on fuel consumption and make sure that your tail pipe is clear so exhaust can exit properly. Know your route of travel as well as have others know your route so that you can be located if you are overdue arriving so you can be found in a timely manner.

Finally, If the weather is too bad for travel, stay home.

Stay safe and have a great holiday season

From the Worth County Sheriff's Office