**WHAT DO TRACTION ADVISORIES MEAN?**

**Traction Tires Advised:**
Oversize loads prohibited from roadways. Commercial Vehicle Services and load information: wsdot.wa.gov/commercialvehicle

**Traction Tires Required:**
All passenger vehicles must have approved traction tires. Chains required on all vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 10,000 pounds, including large passenger trucks, SUVs and RVs.

**Tire Chains Required:**
All vehicles must have approved tire chains, except four- and all-wheel-drive vehicles. Violators face a $500 fine.

**Chains Required On All Vehicles:**
During extreme weather, ALL vehicles must install chains when this is posted — even 4WD/AWD.

Anyone traveling through high elevations or winter conditions should carry chains in their vehicle.

When weather conditions are extreme, ALL vehicles may be required to install chains — even 4WD/AWD. Studded tires do not meet chain requirements.

*Approved traction tires* must have at least an eighth of an inch of tread and be labeled M+S, All Season, or have a Mountain/Snowflake symbol. These tires can be used all year. When you install approved chains, any tire becomes a traction tire. For more information on traction tire options, contact your local tire dealer.

**4WD and AWD must still CARRY chains during this advisory level or face a violation and fine.**

(Washington Administrative Code 204-24-050)

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**APPROVED ALTERNATIVE TRACTION DEVICES (vehicles less than five axles):**

The following are state-approved alternative traction devices. Consult your owner’s manual and the Washington State Patrol website: www.wsp.wa.gov/traveler/traction.htm

**Passenger vehicles**
- Autosocks
- Polaire Grip

**Front wheel drive vehicles only**
- Polaire Steel Grip
- Easy Grip
- Grip-Tex
- SOS Grip

**Commercial vehicles (less than five axles)**
- Autosocks

**KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Subscribe, Follow, Listen**

Download the WSDOT app or subscribe to email or text alerts: wsdot.wa.gov/inform

- Follow WSDOT social media accounts: wsdot.wa.gov/inform
- Call 511 for travel information and mountain pass conditions
- Program your radio to WSDOT’s Highway Advisory Radio: 530 AM and 1610 AM
- WSDOT Winter Info.: wsdot.com/winter
- WSDOT Newsroom: wsdot.wa.gov/news
- Mountain Pass Reports:
  - Online: https://wsdot.com/traffic/passes
  - Twitter: @wsdot_passes
- Cameras & Traffic Alerts: https://wsdot.com/traffic
- Weather: https://wsdot.com/traffic/weather

**ADA Information:** This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the Office of Equal Opportunity at wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov or by calling toll free, 855-362-4ADA(4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.

**WSDOT 2018-2019 WINTER DRIVING GUIDE**

**WHAT’S INSIDE**
- PREPARE FOR WINTER DRIVING
- WHAT TO CARRY ON WINTER TRIPS
- TIRES AND CHAINS
- ROADWAY ADVISORIES
WINTER TRAVEL: PREPARE, EQUIP, FILL UP

Winter travel can be tough on you and your car. Are you prepared? Make sure you:

- Get a winter maintenance check-up. Check your tires, battery, belts, hoses, radiator, lights, brakes, heater/defroster and wipers.
- Talk to your tire dealer about which tires are the best match for your car and your travel.
- Fill up your gas tank before heading out, so you'll have plenty of gas if delayed in a road closure.

WINTER TRAVEL: ON THE ROAD

- Carry chains. Find out which chains, or approved alternatives, fit your vehicle and practice installing them.
- Studded tires do NOT meet the chain requirement. Even vehicles equipped with studded tires need to carry chains in winter conditions.

DRIVING IN SNOW AND ICE

- Slow down and drive for conditions.
- Turn on headlights.
- Focus on driving. Don't use cruise control.
- Leave extra room between vehicles.
- Slow down when approaching intersections, off-ramps, bridges or shady spots.
- Snowplow drivers have a limited field of vision. Stay back 15 car lengths until you're sure it is safe to pass or until the plow pulls off the road.
- Obey chain up notices - violators face a $500 fine. Many pass closures are due to slide outs from drivers without proper equipment.
- Not confident about your vehicle or winter driving skills? Consider delaying travel plans.

STUDDED TIRE INFORMATION

Washington only allows studded tires from Nov. 1 through March 31. There is no individual exception to the studded tire dates and violators face a $136 fine. WSDOT may extend the deadline if forecasts indicate severe winter weather conditions are likely across much of the state.