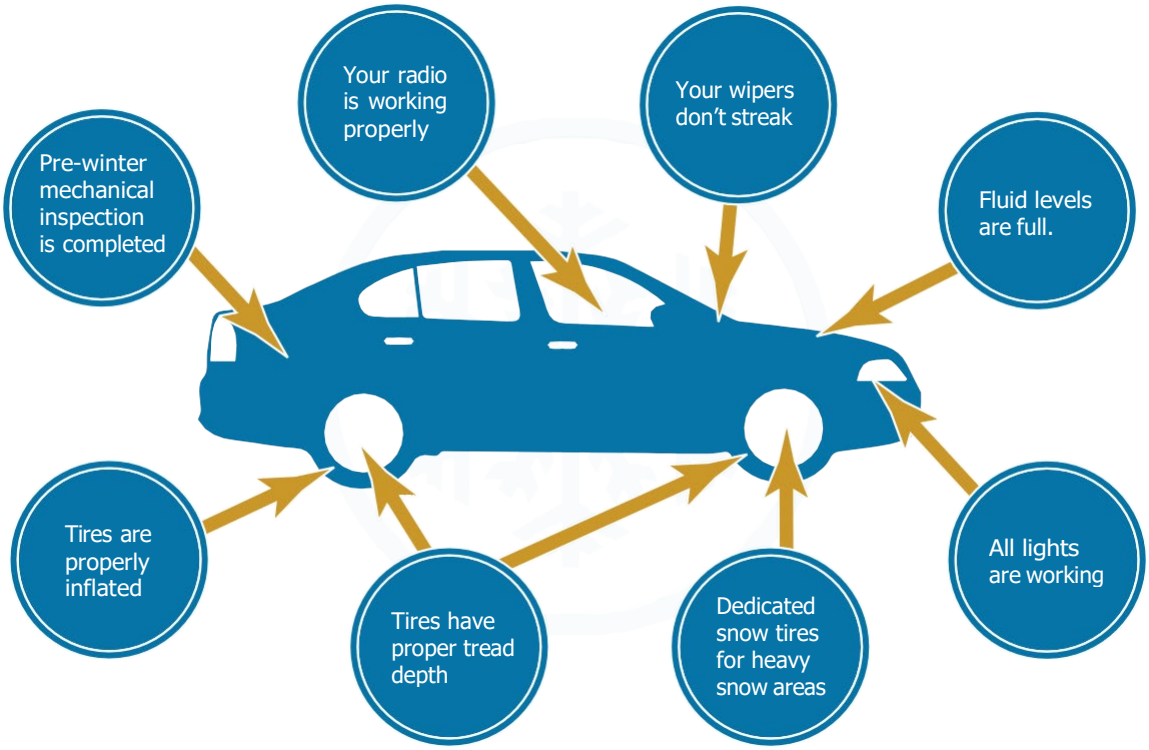
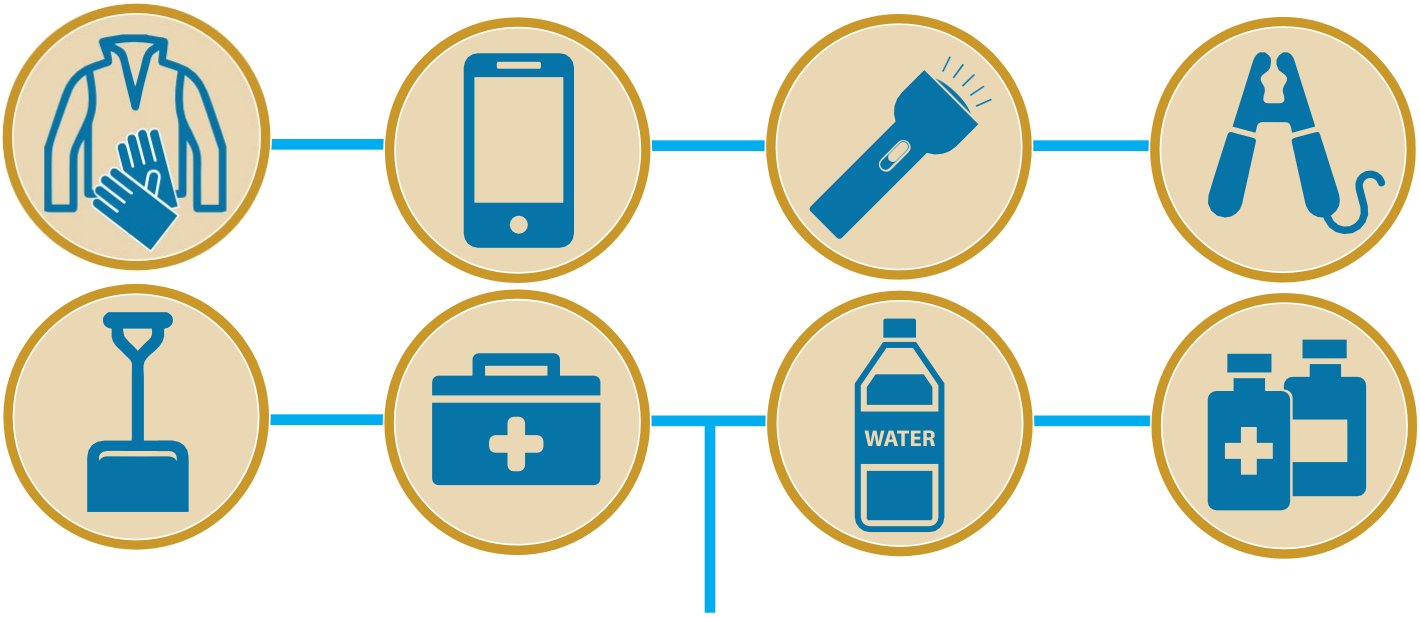
Are you ReadyPA?

Tip Sheet

Getting Your Vehicle Ready for Winter - Motorists should ensure that...



Emergency Travel Kit - Don't Leave Home Without It...



Also remember to include warm clothing and gloves, blanket, ice scraper, sand, non-perishable food and anything else you may need to accommodate family traveling with you (special medication, baby supplies, pet food, etc.).

PennDOT Offers These Winter Driving Tips:

Before You Go

- Prepare a winter emergency travel kit.
- Listen to weather and travel advisories.
- Visit www.511PA.com or call 511.
- Pack a cell phone and be sure it's charged.
- Remove snow and ice from your hood, roof and windows.
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to arrive.
- Do not drink and drive and always wear your seat belt.

While You're Traveling

- Turn on your headlights when your wipers are on- it's the law.
- Watch for wet-looking roads, they could actually be frozen- "black ice."
- Use low beams in cases of heavy or blowing snow.
- Do not use cruise control on snow-covered roads.
- Slow down and increase following distance and avoid sudden stops and starts.
- Use extra caution on bridges and ramps where ice can often form without warning.
- Do not pass or get between trucks plowing in a plow line.
- If you do become stranded, it's recommended that you stay with your vehicle until help arrives. Run the engine every hour or so, but make sure the tailpipe is clear and keep the downwind window cracked open.
- Do not park or abandon your vehicle on snow emergency routes.

Take Special Precautions

Use caution in areas where pedestrians may be present. Anticipate the presence of pedestrians in residential areas. Be alert for people entering the road from behind snow piles. Allow pedestrians extra time to cross icy or snow-covered streets.

Winter Safety Tips for Pedestrians

- Wear brightly colored clothing.
- Stay on sidewalks whenever possible but if you must walk on the road, travel as close to the road shoulder as possible and always walk facing oncoming traffic.
- Allow drivers ample time to stop in icy conditions.
- Before crossing a street, look left, right and then left again to check for traffic.
- Always cross a street at an intersection and avoid entering the road from between parked cars or behind snow piles.