



# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE CHIEF

4410 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93110

## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### - Rain Driving Tips -

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. January 18, 2017 – In anticipation of the approaching inclement weather, the Santa Barbara County Fire Department offers the following tips to help keep you and your passengers safe while driving on wet roads:

- **Routinely check your tires.** Check tire tread depth and for proper inflation.
- **Slow down.** As rain falls, it mixes with grime and oil on the road creating slick conditions.
- **Know how to recover from a skid.** Remember not to slam on the brakes. Apply firm, steady pressure to the brakes and steer the car in the direction of the skid.
- **Keep your distance from the car ahead.** It takes about three times longer to break on wet roads than on dry roads.
- **Turn your headlights on.** Not only do they help you see the road, but they'll help other drivers see you.
- **First rains make the road very slippery.** First rains make the roads the most difficult to drive on as mud and oil combine with water to form a slippery layer.
- **Dry your brakes after driving through standing water.** If you have driven through standing water, apply the brakes lightly for a short time to dry them.
- **Make sure your wipers are in good condition and functioning properly.** California law requires that if you have your wipers on, your vehicle headlights must also be on.

Taking these simple tips into account can save your life.

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