



**SAFETY FROM THE STREETS TO THE SLOPES**

## **DEFENSIVE DRIVING SKILLS**



**PARTNERS IN SAFETY**

### **PICK THE RIGHT TIRES**

Worn tires significantly reduce your ability to get going and stop in snowy conditions. Also replace summer or all-season tires with a set of dedicated winter tires.

These have tread patterns and rubber compounds specially designed to grip snow and ice, for optimum traction on slick roads.

### **CLEAR OFF THE SNOW AND ICE BEFORE DRIVING**

Take the time to thoroughly brush snow and ice off your vehicle--including the roof and windows. This will ensure that you have optimum visibility and that no large clumps of snow that may fall off of the vehicle once you begin driving, which can be a hazard for other motorists.

Headlamps and taillights may need to be wiped clean from road salt and grunge.

### **DRIVE CAUTIOUSLY IN WET WEATHER**

Anti Lock brakes can keep your car from skidding.

Always apply gradual pressure to the pedal. You're Subaru is equipped with Traction Control which adjusts to your vehicle to keep you in control and on the right path. Don't pump your brakes – there is no need

because your Anti-lock Braking System (ABS) does it for you.

### **REDUCE YOUR SPEED AND DRIVE SMOOTHLY**

In slippery conditions, tires lose their grip more easily, affecting all aspects of your driving: braking, turning, and accelerating. The key is to drive as smoothly as possible, avoiding sudden actions or rapid movements of any kind. Drive as if you have a full cup of coffee on the dash board or a bowl of water in your lap.

### **KNOW YOUR ROUTE AND BE WARY OF OTHER MOTORISTS.**

It's important to be familiar with your route and check local road conditions before traveling to the slopes. Also provide plenty of space between you and other drivers that might not be as cautious as you.

*Whether it's the equipment you use to slide down the slope, or the Subaru that takes you to the slopes, good judgment and routine maintenance is key. To help ensure a safer day on the slopes, and the roads, visit your local Subaru dealer, or your local ski shop, where trained professionals can service your equipment before the lifts open.*



**SAFETY FROM THE STREETS TO THE SLOPES**

# **DEFENSIVE SKIING & RIDING SKILLS**



**PARTNERS IN SAFETY**

**nsp.org**

**subaru.com**

## **CHOOSE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT**

Make sure your skis or snowboard, boots and bindings are the correct size, adjusted properly, tuned and ready for a great day on the slopes. When purchasing clothing, look for fabric that's water and wind resistant and avoid cotton, for both base and outer layers.

## **WEAR PROPER HEAD & EYEWEAR**

Wearing a helmet is strongly recommended. Also, while sunglasses work great on sunny days, mountain conditions can change quickly. Carry a pair of goggles for when it snows and if you're wearing a helmet, make sure your goggles fit well with the brim of helmet. And don't forget to bring goggles for the kids too!

## **TAKE A LESSON**

Also think about signing up early for a lesson...or three. Surveys show that three lessons can be more effective than one, and many resorts are offering deals on multi-lesson packages. Progressive programs have also become common, especially for freestyle and park riding.

## **OBJECTS ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR**

Check your speed, and be able to stop and avoid other people or objects. Studies show that the average skier

or rider slides down the slope at 27 miles per hour. At this rate, you need 60 feet and have only one and a half seconds to avoid a person or object.

## **KNOW THE CODE - KNOW YOUR LIMITS**

Know the responsibility code and ski and board where you feel comfortable. Study a trail map or grooming report, and ask friends or resort staff questions about terrain. If you're tired, stop skiing. Accidents often happen on that "last run" when your legs feel tired, but you decide to keep going anyway.

## **OBSERVE ALL SIGNS AND WARNINGS**

Skiers and riders should be aware that trail difficulty, as marked by a green circle (easiest), blue square (intermediate), or black diamond (expert) varies from resort to resort. Start with the easiest terrain and then progress as your ability permits. When skiing or riding in terrain parks, start small and work your way up. Stay off closed trails and never cross a rope or trail boundary.