



DAS Delivers: Fleet Services NewsBrake

Department of Administrative Services ~ Empowering People · Collaboration · Customer Service

December 2022

Important Winter Weather Driving Reminders

The National Weather Service has issued a Winter Storm Warning in effect from noon Wednesday, December 21, until late Friday night, December 23, 2022. Under these conditions, drivers are encouraged to refer to DAS Fleet Services' [Winter Driving Guidelines](#) and <http://www.511ia.org/> for current road conditions and tow bans. Driving state vehicles during tow bans is discouraged.

In addition, DAS Fleet Services has compiled some helpful tips from the National Safety Council for traveling in the season of ice and snow. More information is available on the [DAS Fleet Website](#):

- **Prepare Your Car for Winter--**In addition to annual maintenance, here are some tips to winterize your car:
 - Make sure the cooling system and battery are in good working order.
 - If using all-season tires, check the tread and replace if less than 4/32 of an inch. Check the tire pressure and use the manufacturer's recommended pressure.
 - Check your wiper blades and replace if needed. Add wiper fluid rated for -30 degrees
 - Clean your car's external camera lenses and side mirrors.
- **Avoid a Crash**
 - Avoid using cruise control in wintry conditions.
 - Steer in the direction of a skid.
 - Accelerate and decelerate slowly.
 - Increase following distance to 8 to 10 seconds
 - If visibility is severely limited due to a whiteout, pull off the road to a safe place and do not drive until conditions improve. Avoid pulling off onto the shoulder unless it is an absolute emergency.
 - If the forecast looks iffy, wait out the storm; if you must travel, share your travel plans and route with someone before you leave.
- **Know Your Car's Capabilities**
 - [My Car Does What?](#) is a national campaign to help educate drivers about the safety features built into vehicles. [Search for your car](#) and find out what safety features are already built in.
 - [Traction control](#) is now standard on most new vehicles. This function helps your vehicle gain traction on snowy, icy or wet surfaces.
 - [Anti-lock braking system](#) (ABS) helps you steer in emergencies by restoring traction to your tires and is standard on most new vehicles. ABS may vibrate or pulse when engaged. This is normal. Continue to press and hold pressure to the brake pedal.
 - Remember, you are your car's best safety feature.

Driver's License Verification Form

As a reminder, all individuals who drive a vehicle for the state of Iowa must submit their [Driver's License information for verification](#). This includes anyone using their personal vehicle for State business, interns, contractors and employees of the State. Drivers must fill out the form themselves.

Vehicle Fun Facts

According to Mentalfloss.com, more than 22 million tons of salt are used on U.S. roads each winter. That equates to 137 pounds of salt per person!

DAS Fleet Services, 109 SE 13th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50319

HOURS: Monday: 6:00 am - 4:30 pm • Tuesday - Friday: 7:00 am - 4:30 pm

CONTACT: Customer Service: 515-281-3162 • After Hours: 515-725-2243

Risk Management: das.risk@iowa.gov • Fleet Motor Pool: motorpool@iowa.gov • State of Iowa Drivers: SOIdrivers@iowa.gov

For more information: <https://das.iowa.gov/procurement/fleet-services>