

## Road Salt Struggles:

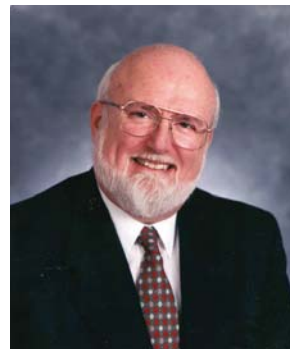
- The Montgomery County Engineer's Office anticipated the surging salt prices. However, some communities are still struggling with the road salt situation.
- Montgomery County is working with all municipalities to find solutions.

## If you become stranded:

- Do not panic.
- Do not leave your car unless you know exactly where you are, how far it is to possible help, and are certain you will improve your situation.
- Attract attention, light two flares at each end of the car. Hang a brightly colored cloth from the car.
- Keep at least one window open slightly. Heavy snow and ice can seal a car shut.
- Run the engine and heater for about 10 minutes every hour only if you are certain the car's exhaust is not blocked.



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# Winter Driving Safety Tips



## Items to keep in your car:

- Working flashlight and extra batteries
- Cell phone with car charger
- Reflective triangles and flares
- Properly inflated spare tire
- Shovel
- Bag of salt, sand, or cat litter
- First aid kit with pocket knife
- Several blankets
- Sleeping bags
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Waterproof matches
- Snow gear and extra clothes
- Tool kit
- Bottled water
- Snacks



## Smart driving during the winter:

- The best advice for driving in inclement weather is to not drive at all.
- Leave early, and expect the trip to take twice as long as normal.
- Plan your route to avoid steep upgrades and lightly-traveled roads where deep drifts have a chance to form.
- Slow down.
- Increase following distance. Allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- Brake gently to avoid skidding.
- Turn on your headlights to increase your visibility to other drivers.
- Keep an eye on the weather forecast and current conditions.



## Important winter car maintenance:

- Check tires for proper inflation including the spare tire. Also check tires for sidewall wear and proper tread depth.
- Get a tune-up before winter weather starts.
- Check battery.
- Check coolant.
- Check windshield wipers.
- Fill gas tank.
- Fill washer fluid with fluid rated for cold weather.
- Make sure defrosters are working properly.
- Clean car off completely especially windows, turn signals, and headlights.

