

# DRIVING IN BAD WEATHER

*If inclement weather is present in your area and if you must drive, make sure your vehicle is operating safely. Stay tuned to your radio for updates on weather conditions.*

## Rain:

- To improve visibility, turn on your lights and defroster.
- Try to drive in the tracks of the car ahead, reduce your speed and allow for additional stopping distance.
- Be very careful during light rain and mist. Dirt and oil on the roadway surface can create very slippery road conditions.
- Puddles of rain can conceal potentially damaging potholes.
- Hydroplaning can occur. When this happens, the tires of your car lose contact with the road and ride up on a wedge of water. Make sure your tires have good tread and are properly inflated. If your car does hydroplane, keep the steering wheel straight; take your foot off the gas and do not hit your brakes or try to steer. As your speed slows, the weight of the car will cause the car to settle down onto the road again.

## Flood:

- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DRIVE THROUGH FLOOD WATERS. The water may be deeper than it appears. Two feet of water can carry away most vehicles.
- If you happen to drive into an area where water is running swiftly, the force of the current may pull your car to one side. If this happens ease off the gas, but don't touch the brakes. Then steer away from the swift water.
- If your car is caught in a flash flood, get out of your car immediately and move to higher ground.

## Fog:

- If you see a patch of fog ahead, slow down before you reach it.
- Turn on your low beam headlights or fog lights.
- Turn on your defroster and windshield wipers.
- Be alert for slow moving vehicles and traffic stopped ahead.
- In heavy fog, roll your windows down. You may actually hear other cars before you see them.