

Ohio State Highway Patrol

Media Release

General Headquarters • Columbus, Ohio



For Immediate Release: February 15, 2010
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Motorists Urged to Use Caution and Avoid Interstate 71

DELAWARE - The Ohio State Highway Patrol is responding to a multi-vehicle crash on Interstate 71, near U.S. Route 36 in Delaware County. I-71 southbound is closed. Motorists are encouraged to use State Route 61 as an alternate route.

With heavy snow continuing to fall, motorists are encouraged to use extreme caution and only travel if necessary. The Patrol recommends the following tips to assist motorists with winter driving:

- Maintain a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic ahead.
- Pay attention to the roadways and weather conditions, as they can change rapidly.
- Always pay close attention to bridges and overpasses, as they are often the first to freeze over.
- If you do slide off the side of the road, stay with your vehicle and call the patrol at 1-877-7-PATROL.
- If you get stuck in snow, make sure that your tail pipe is free of all snow and debris, to decrease your chance of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Troopers suggest all motorists have the following items in their vehicle in case of a breakdown:

- Cell phone
- Road flares or reflectors
- *Help* or *Call Police* signs
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Blanket/Sleeping bag
- Small shovel
- Bottled water and energy foods
- Candles and matches
- Tow strap/chain

Up-to-the-minute road conditions are always available by logging onto the ODOT's Web site, www.buckeyetraffic.org. ODOT also reminds motorists: Ice and Snow...Take It Slow.

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