



DRIVING IN SPRINGTIME WEATHER

Turn Around Don't Drown!



With the recent storms and flooding that have occurred this spring, drivers of any type of vehicle need to know road conditions can change rapidly with flash floods. Each year, more deaths occur due to flooding than from any other thunderstorm-related hazard. Why? The main reason is people underestimate the force and power of water. Over half of all flood-related deaths, each year occur with victims inside vehicles. Many of the deaths occur in vehicles as they are swept downstream. Of these drownings, many are preventable, but too many people continue to drive around the barriers that warn you the road is flooded. Even when operating a large commercial motor vehicle, you can be swept away by the strong force of the water's current. I remember vividly watching several years ago a cement mixer that had been caught in a stormwater canal in Los Angeles during a flash flood be swept down the canal as if it were a toy boat. To check on weather conditions and flooding, go to the National Weather Service website at: www.srh.weather.gov (<http://www.srh.weather.gov>).

Whether you are driving or walking, if you come to a flooded road, **Turn Around Don't Drown**. You will not know the depth of the water, nor will you know the condition of the road under the water.

- If flooding occurs, get to higher ground. Get out of areas subject to flooding. This includes dips, low spots, canyons, washes, etc.
- Avoid areas already flooded, especially if the water is flowing fast. Do not attempt to cross flowing streams. Turn Around Don't Drown

- Roadbeds may be washed out under flood waters. NEVER drive through flooded roadways. Turn Around Don't Drown If your vehicle is suddenly caught in rising water, leave it immediately and seek higher ground.
- Don't Park your vehicle along streams and washes, particularly during threatening conditions.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers
- Avoid low water crossings.
- Use alternate routes to avoid flood-prone areas.
- Leave your vehicle immediately if it stalls in floodwaters.
- Move to higher ground if you can do so safely.
- Most cars and light trucks will begin to float in as little as 1 to 2 feet of water.

Safe Driving Tips for Springtime Weather Conditions

Tornado

- Do not drive during tornado conditions
- Never try to out-drive a tornado in a vehicle. Tornadoes can change direction quickly and can lift a car or truck and toss it through the air
- Get out of your vehicle immediately and seek shelter in a nearby building
- If there is no time to get indoors, or if there is no nearby shelter, get out of the car and lie in a ditch or a low-lying area away from the vehicle. Overpasses also can be places of refuge, however, be aware of the potential for flooding

Severe Thunderstorms and Lightning



- Tune in to your radio to stay informed of approaching storms
- If you see a tornado or hear a tornado warning, don't try to outrun it. View tornado driving safety tips
- Turn on your headlights (low beams) and slow down. Many states require the use of headlights during rain
- Allow extra distance for braking
- Do not drive unless necessary
- Pull safely onto the shoulder of the road away from any trees that could fall on the vehicle
- Stay in the car and turn on the emergency flashers until the heavy rains subside
- An automobile provides better insulation against lightning than being in the open
- Avoid contact with any metal conducting surfaces either inside your car or outside

- Avoid flooded roadways
- Avoid downed power lines
- Check your windshield wipers and tires regularly to ensure that they are ready for severe weather
- Approach intersections with caution
- Treat traffic lights at intersections as stop signs

Department of Homeland Security Retains Vaccination Requirements for Border Crossings



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has announced that it will extend temporary Title 19 requirements and continue to require non-U.S. travelers, including truck drivers, entering the United States via land ports of entry and ferry terminals at the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada borders to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide related proof of vaccination upon request.

These requirements will continue to apply to non-U.S. travelers who are traveling both for essential and non-essential reasons and do not apply to U.S. citizens, Lawful Permanent Residents, or U.S. nationals.

The Canadian Government has similar COVID vaccination requirements in place for U.S. travelers entering Canada, including truck drivers. As of April 1, however, Canada no longer requires pre-entry negative COVID tests for fully vaccinated travelers entering Canada by land, air, or water. You must still use ArriveCAN within 72 hours before your arrival to Canada, however.

Click it or Ticket!



National Seat Belt Enforcement Mobilization

May 23 - June 5, 2022

Seat belts have been proven to be one of the best ways to save your life in a crash. Yet many still do not buckle up. Worse still, not wearing a seat belt is a habit that will pass on to impressionable youth who, in turn, will think it is safe to not buckle up.

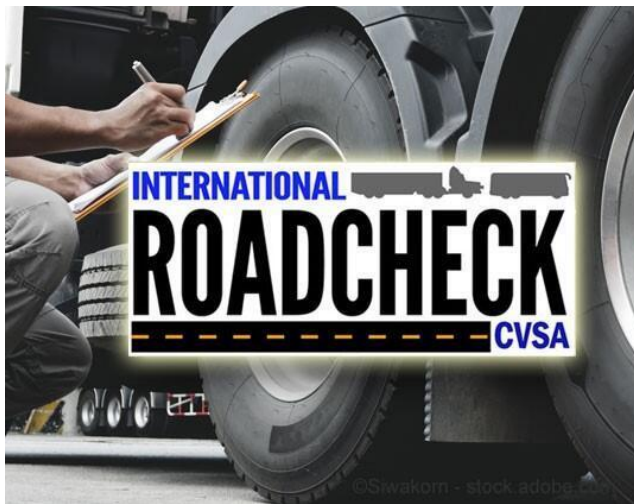
The Click It or Ticket campaign focuses on safety education, strong laws, and law enforcement support to save lives.

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/campaign/click-it-or-ticket> (<https://www.nhtsa.gov/campaign/click-it-or-ticket>)



May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

Motorist awareness is an important component of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's comprehensive motorcycle safety program. Over two-thirds of fatal motorcycle crashes involve a motorcycle and another vehicle. The motorist either does not see the oncoming motorcycle at all or does not see the motorcycle in time to avoid a crash. It is important for motorists to know that their actions affect the safety of motorcyclists. A motorist and a motorcyclist may take different actions in the same driving or highway situation. For example, a motorist may ignore a piece of road debris; however, that same piece of road debris may be deadly for a motorcyclist.



International Roadcheck Set for May 17th-19th with Emphasis on Wheel Ends

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance has announced this year's International Roadcheck dates as May 17-19 with a focus on wheel ends.

Roadcheck is a 72-hour high-visibility, high-volume commercial motor vehicle inspection and enforcement initiative. Commercial motor vehicle inspectors in Canada, Mexico and the U.S. will conduct North American Standard Inspections of commercial motor vehicles and drivers at weigh and inspection stations, on roving patrols, and at temporary inspection sites.

Each year, CVSA focuses on a specific aspect of a roadside inspection. This year, the focus will be on wheel ends. Wheel end components support the heavy loads carried by commercial motor vehicles, maintain stability and control, and are critical for braking. Violations involving wheel end components historically account for about one quarter of the vehicle out-of-service violations discovered during Roadcheck, and past Roadcheck data routinely identified wheel end components as a top 10 vehicle violation. [Learn more about International Roadcheck.](http://cvsa.org/program/programs/international-roadcheck/)
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24/7 ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE
CALL 1-800-435-3273

IDEALEASE, INC.
430 North Rand Road, North Barrington, IL 60010 | 847-304-6000 |