

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS POINTER

DECEMBER 2021

## BE PREPARED WHEN YOU TRAVEL

The holiday season is upon us once again, which means many people in the United States will be traveling. While some escape to warmer weather and sandy beaches, others will be traveling to a cold winter wonderland. Wherever your journeys take you, it is important for you to be prepared for whatever happens. As anyone who has ever traveled can tell you, things don't always go according to plan. The following are 5 preparedness tips you can use to be better prepared for your holiday travels:

1

**Service your Vehicle:** Getting routine maintenance service done on your vehicle before you travel will give you peace of mind that the tires are full of air, the fluids are at the proper level, and there are no leaks or necessary repairs to take care of. Also, while you're at it, ask the maintenance technician to fill the spare tire to the proper level, just in case.

2

**Check the Weather:** Knowing what the weather will be like during your travels should influence what you will need to pack and the time you will need to travel. If less than desirable weather is in the forecast, consider giving yourself more time by leaving earlier than planned to make up for a slower pace. You might even want to consider delaying your travels if poor road conditions seem inevitable.

For live updates on road conditions throughout the State of Idaho check out [Idaho 511](#). For weather updates throughout the United States follow this link to [The National Weather Service](#).

3

**Pack a Winter Weather Emergency Kit:** With winter on its way, it is always a good idea to pack a winter weather emergency kit in your vehicle as you travel. The Idaho Transportation Department provides a brief overview of what you should put in your winter weather emergency kit. Click the following link to see what they suggest: [Winter Weather Emergency Kit](#).

4

**Notify Someone of your Travel Plans:** Whether it be a trusted neighbor, a family member, or a friend, let someone know about your travel plans. Check in with them periodically to give them updates and to let them know you are safe. If an emergency happens along the way, this point of contact could be a lifesaver for you.

5

**Follow the Rules of the Road:** Always wear a seat belt and obey the rules of the road whether you are a passenger or the operator of a motor vehicle. If the weather has produced poor road conditions, slow down and avoid following other vehicles too closely. If at any time you feel uncomfortable driving, consider pulling over in a safe area with your hazard lights on until you feel it is safe to proceed.

**Ada County Emergency Management & Community Resilience**

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