



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, January 17, 2007, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Royal Fork (Columbia Mall)

"Static Ignition Hazards" Craig Scheer, Tesoro

Driving in Snow and Ice

The best advice for driving in bad winter weather is not to drive at all, if you can avoid it. Don't go out until the snow plows and sanding trucks have had a chance to do their work, and allow yourself extra time to reach your destination.

If you must drive in snowy conditions, make sure your car is prepared ([get tips for winterizing your car here](#)), and that you know how to handle road conditions. It's helpful to practice winter driving techniques in a snowy, open parking lot, so you're familiar with how your car handles. Consult your owner's manual for tips specific to your vehicle.

Driving safely on icy roads

- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- Keep your lights and windshield clean.
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
- Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.
- Don't pass snowplows and sanding trucks. The drivers have limited visibility, and you're likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.
- Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

If your rear wheels skid...

- Take your foot off the accelerator.
- Steer in the direction you want the front wheels to go. If your rear wheels are sliding left, steer left. If they're sliding right, steer right.
- If your rear wheels start sliding the other way as you recover, ease the steering wheel toward that side. You might have to steer left and right a few times to get your vehicle completely under control.
- If you have standard brakes, pump them gently.
- If you have anti-lock brakes (ABS), do not pump the brakes. Apply steady pressure to the brakes. You will feel the brakes pulse -- this is normal.

If your front wheels skid...

- Take your foot off the gas and shift to neutral, but don't try to steer immediately.
- As the wheels skid sideways, they will slow the vehicle and traction will return. As it does, steer in the direction you want to go. Then put the transmission in "drive" or release the clutch, and accelerate gently.

If you get stuck...

- Do not spin your wheels. This will only dig you in deeper.
- Turn your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way.
- Use a light touch on the gas, to ease your car out.
- Use a shovel to clear snow away from the wheels and the underside of the car.
- Pour sand, kitty litter, gravel or salt in the path of the wheels, to help get traction.
- Try rocking the vehicle. (Check your owner's manual first -- it can damage the transmission on some vehicles.) Shift from forward to reverse, and back again. Each time you're in gear, give a light touch on the gas until the vehicle gets going.
- If you are stranded, [follow these tips](#).

Sources: National Safety Council, New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, Washington State Government Information & Services [[weather.com-Driving Safety Tips](#)]

BOARD MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS MEET THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH / 6:00 - 8:00 PM. / GRAND FORKS PARK DISTRICT / 1210 7TH AVE S

NEXT MEETING → February 1st

2007 BOARD MEMBERS

Steve Harken (President)
UND - EERC

Al Maloney (Vice President)
Midwest Refrigeration, Inc.

Joe Strang (Treasurer)
Valley Dairy Car Wash

Debbie Pierson (Secretary)
RDO Foods Company

Pat Balstad

Northland Community and Technical College

Davis Hoverson

Workforce Safety and Insurance

Bonnie Knutson
Axis Clinic

Greg Lian

Swingen Construction Company

Cedric Masa

Aurora Urgent Care - Occupational Medicine

Lyle Ross

Vigen Construction, Inc.

Annette Shane

Grand Forks Park District

COMMITTEES

Communication Committee

(Linda Wiley, Carol Gierszewski, Bonnie Knutson, Annette Shane)

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH / 12:15 - 1:15 PM / GF CITY HALL / 255 N 4TH ST

NEXT MEETING → February 28th

- *Has your contact information changed?* Please e-mail Linda Wiley at info@nosha.net with any updates.

Education Committee

(Bonnie Knutson, Pat Balstad)

(Upcoming GM Meeting Presentations)

- **February 21, 2007**
- TBA

Membership Committee

(Davis Hoverson, Greg Lian)

- New members are always welcome - Sometimes all it takes is a *personal invitation* to join you at the next general membership meeting!

THANK YOU JOE STRANG AND VALLEY DAIRY CAR WASH FOR SUPPLYING DOOR PRIZES FOR THE DECEMBER GM MEETING!

Happy New Year!