



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

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Newsletter Article

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Winter Driving

January is a cold month here in Delaware. It is likely that at some point you will find yourself on the road with snow plows. But, how do you drive safely around them? The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) offers tips for driving safe while the plows are clearing the roads.

Navigating Around Snow Plows

- Don't crowd a snow plow or travel beside it. Snow plows travel slowly, make wide turns, stop often, overlap lanes, and exit the road frequently.
- The road behind an active snow plow is safer to drive on. If you find yourself behind a snow plow, stay behind it or use caution when passing.
- When you are driving behind a snow plow, don't follow too closely. A snow plow operator's field-of-vision is limited; if you can't see the mirrors, the driver can't see you. Also, materials used to de-ice the road could hit your vehicle.
- Snow plows can throw up a cloud of snow that can reduce your visibility to zero in less time than you can react. Never drive into a snow cloud – it can conceal vehicles or hazards.

Remember, the best tip for driving in wintery weather is simply to stay home and let the highway workers clear the roads. For more information about winter driving, go to NHTSA's website www.safercar.gov/winterdrivingtips.

Drive Safe. Arrive Alive DE.