

The Thinking Driver

Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 9 Winter 2010



Back by popular demand

Top 10 Rules for Winter Driving

Winter driving presents a number of challenges to both you and your car. Cold weather tests the limits of your vehicle's mechanical abilities. Treacherous driving conditions test your abilities as a driver. It is imperative that you and your vehicle be ready for the upcoming challenges of winter conditions.

- 1. ACCEPT YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to do all in your power to drive without incident. Do not blame the weather for a crash. Be prepared to meet any situation.
- 2. ADJUST YOUR SPEED TO CONDITIONS.** Slow down on wet, snow-covered, or icy roads so you can stop in time if you have to. Watch for ice patches, especially in shaded area, on bridges, and on overpasses. On compact snow, reduce you speed by $\frac{1}{3}$. On icy roads, reduce your speed by $\frac{1}{2}$.
- 3. GET THE "FEEL" OF THE ROAD.** If you are away from traffic, try the brakes occasionally while driving slowly. Find out just how slippery the road is and adjust your speed to road and weather conditions. Never make sudden moves like slamming on brakes or accelerator.
- 4. KEEP THE WINDSHIELD CLEAR OF SNOW, ICE AND FOG.** Be sure headlights, windshield wiper blades and defrosters are in top working condition. You have to see danger to avoid it.
- 5. USE SNOW TIRES, TIRE CHAINS, OR STUDED TIRES ON SNOW AND ICE.** They cut stopping distances and give more starting and climbing traction ability. However, even with the help of chains or studs, slower-than-normal-speeds are a "must" on snow and ice.
- 6. GENTLY APPLY YOUR BRAKES TO SLOW DOWN OR STOP.** Slamming on the brakes can lock the wheels and throw you into a dangerous skid.
- 7. UNDERSTAND AND USE ABS CORRECTLY.** ABS will increase your stopping distance on icy road conditions. Gently applying the brakes to the point just before ABS is activated will reduce your stopping distance. If you feel ABS come on, press down hard on the pedal, look and steer where you want to go and don't let the pedal up until you are out of danger.
- 8. FOLLOW AT A SAFE DISTANCE.** Keep well back of the vehicle ahead of you in order to give yourself room to stop. Remember, without tire chains, it takes 3 to 12 times the distance to stop on snow and ice as on dry concrete.
- 9. CRUISE CONTROL.** Do not use cruise control when the roads might be slick. Cruise control can apply power suddenly or at the wrong time and cause a skid or make a small skid uncontrollable. If you have the cruise control on and realize the road might be slick, use the hand operated controls to turn can initiate a skid if the roads are slick.
- 10. REMEMBER,** condensation on the pavement of bridges and over-passe freezes before the rest of the roadway.

*Thinking
Driver*

Winter is coming. Are your drivers prepared?

Thinking Driver's Winter Driving Training Tools

If your employees drive in winter, these Winter Driving training tools are an absolute must. Your employees will learn:

- How to prepare yourself and your vehicle for winter driving
- How the 6 conditions of winter driving affect safe vehicle operation
- How to apply the 3 elements of traction
- What to do when your vehicle skids
- How to recover from 3 different types of vehicle skids
- How to correctly use anti-lock brakes for emergency avoidance



Winter Driving DVD
Includes skid recovery
\$229



Winter Driving Manual
Great addition to the DVD
\$12.95



Winter Driving Quick Reference Cards
Excellent Handout after viewing DVD or reading the manual
\$2.49

NEW Winter Driving Course **ON-LINE**

Now your employees can learn what they need to know to stay safe in winter conditions right at their desk!

This **CERTIFICATE COURSE** takes less than 30 minutes to complete and still covers:

- How to prepare yourself and your vehicle for winter driving
- How the 6 conditions of winter driving affect safe vehicle operation
- How to apply the 3 elements of traction
- What to do when your vehicle skids
- How to recover from 3 different types of vehicle skids
- How to correctly use anti-lock brakes for emergency avoidance



BONUS!

This course includes a downloadable hardcopy manual (a \$12.95 no-charge bonus!) and all of the critical footage from Thinking Driver's Winter Driving Fundamentals DVD.

Register on-line www.ThinkingDriver.com for only \$45 per person

Limited time offer book 50 or more seats for only \$29.99 per person

Preview and Order Thinking Drivers Winter Driving Training Tools online today
www.ThinkingDriver.com

Winter Driving & Skid Recovery Training

Driving in winter can be challenging and dangerous. Safe operation in adverse conditions requires skilled and trained operators. Thinking Driver offers both Classroom and Practical training for your employees.

Classroom:

Our winter Driving and Skid Recovery Classroom course is a one-half day theory program utilizing a unique blend of fast paced lecture, video and discussion.

Behind the Wheel:

Our Winter Driving and Skid Recovery practical course is a one-half day hands-on session that takes the theory of vehicle dynamic and skid recovery and puts it into action on a closed training area.

Course participants will drive their vehicles into increasingly challenging skid situations and be coached in advanced skid recovery techniques.



Safe Backing Coach Training

This 2-day Coaching program is great for supervisors, safety officers or instructors who need to be able to train or coach drivers in safe backing practical sessions. The course includes; basic coaching theory, how to give corrective and instructive feedback and all of the basic theory required to safely back up non-articulated vehicles.

Each 2 day course \$895.00 per person

Winter Driving Instructor Upgrade

This one-day theory upgrade course will prepare currently certified and/or experienced classroom instructors to deliver Winter Driving Classroom course using the Thinking Driver Winter Driving Manual, quick reference cards and DVD.

This program includes an in-depth exploration of vehicle dynamics and skid recovery theory. Participants will be provided with instructor manual with powerpoint presentation including winter driving video clips.

Call Thinking Driver for more details

Need to train your driver trainers?



Thinking Driver Instructor Classroom

Regina, SK Nov 22 - 26, 2010
Chilliwack, BC Dec 6 - 10, 2010
Edmonton, AB Mar 21 - 25, 2011

Thinking Driver Instructor Practical

Edmonton, AB Nov 15 - 20, 2010
Chilliwack, BC Jan 24 - 28, 2011
Regina, SK Feb 7 - 11, 2011

Each 5 day course \$2295

Would you like to see a course listed here in your area? Please call 1-877-250-5601 for inclusion.



Can't come to us? Have us come to You!
Contact Annette DeCaire, Sales and Marketing
to schedule one of our programs in your area.

Ph: 1-877-250-5601/ (604) 596-0500;
Email: adecaire@thinkingdriver.com



Spencer McDonald

**President
Thinking Driver**

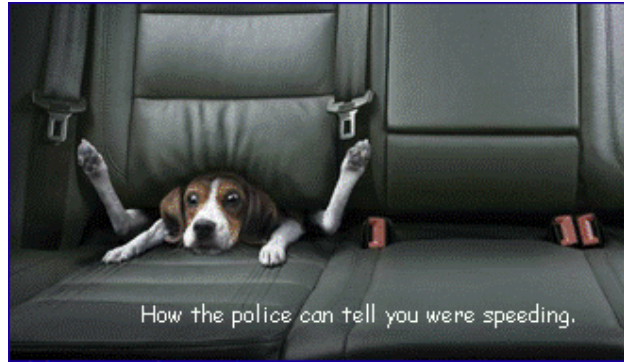
Keynote and Training

A respected authority on driver behaviour, psychology and training, Mr. McDonald is the founder of Thinking Driver.

Spencer is available for conferences, safety seminars and training sessions, executive sessions and keynote addresses.

With a background in education, counseling, psychology and motivation, Spencer has spent years in the road safety field. Since 1984, he has trained thousands of drivers, motorcycle riders and driving instructors including police, firefighters and emergency vehicle operators.

Click [here](#) for more information on how to book Spencer McDonald for your upcoming event.



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Questions or comments? Email us:
pam.peterson@thinkingdriver.com

or call us at 1-877-250-5601



Check out our website at
www.thinkingdriver.com



Thinking Driver

12601 - 54th Avenue, Surrey, BC
Canada V3X 3C1
1-877-250-5601/ (604) 596-0500

www.thinkingdriver.com



Thinking Driver

1927 Boblett Street, Blaine, WA
USA 98230
1-877-250-5601/ (604) 596-0500

www.thinkingdriver.com