

Media Release

December 30, 2024

Killam / Forestburg RCMP reminds drivers to exercise caution at intersections and to stay safe on icy roads

Killam, Alta. – Black ice, snow, and slush can reduce traction and increase the risk of collisions. The RCMP is urging drivers to remain cautious when approaching and navigating intersections during the winter months. By taking simple precautions, drivers can help prevent accidents and keep themselves and others safe on the road.

Killam / Forestburg RCMP recommends the following strategies to safely approach and navigate intersections when roads are icy or covered in snow:

- When approaching an intersection, begin to slow down earlier than usual. Icy roads can significantly increase breaking distance necessary.
- Abrupt braking can cause your vehicle to skid or lose control, especially on icy surfaces. Instead, gently ease off the accelerator and apply light pressure to the brakes to slow down gradually as you approach the intersection.
- Leave more distance between your car and the car in front of you. This provides more time to react if the vehicle in front suddenly slows down or stops.
- Black ice can form near intersections, particularly in shaded areas or where snow has melted and refrozen. Drive cautiously and assume that any wet-looking pavement may be slippery.
- Be aware of the traffic around you and anticipate that other drivers may have difficulty stopping or maintaining control at intersections.
- Ensure your vehicle's signals and headlights are in working order and use them to communicate your intentions well in advance.
- Winter weather can make it harder to see pedestrians or cyclists, particularly in poor visibility or during snowfall. Slow down and remain vigilant at intersections, where pedestrians are likely to cross.
- Even if you have the right-of-way, proceed cautiously and be prepared to yield to avoid potential accidents with drivers who may not be able to stop in time.
- Ensure that your tires are in good condition, properly inflated, and suited for the season. Also, keep your windshield and mirrors clear of snow and ice to maximize visibility at intersections.

For more tips on how you can protect yourself from mail theft, follow us on Facebook @RCMPinAlberta and on X @RCMPAlberta.

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