



## Severe Weather Driving

It's a well-known fact that professional drivers dread driving in the winter months, but the Spring season also has a fair share of weather hazards. March is the start of the tornado season and even if you aren't in a tornado-prone area, they can happen at any time. Thunderstorms and high winds are also prevalent in the Spring and drivers have to be extremely cautious and alert for severe weather conditions. The best case scenario would be to have alternate routes to avoid possible fast approaching storms, but if that is not possible keep the following Driving Safety Tips in mind ....

### If You Spot a Tornado:

- \* Never try to out-drive a tornado in a vehicle. They can change direction very quickly and trucks have quite a bit of surface area for the wind to strike, lift and throw through the air.
- \* Alert other drivers by radio to weather conditions that you are witnessing.
- \* Get out of your truck immediately and seek shelter in a nearby building. If there isn't time or there isn't a building nearby, lie in a ditch or low-lying area away from the vehicle.



### If Severe Weather Threatens:

- \* Tune in your radio to local news or weather alert stations to stay informed of approaching storms. Some storms have wind velocities that can approach or exceed hurricane strength conditions. A semi-trailer can act as a sail & tip-over before the driver can react.
- \* Most cell phones have weather apps that can also warn you of approaching dangerous weather conditions.
- \* Stay in touch with dispatch to check on-line weather conditions.
- \* Make sure your headlights (low beam) are on and slow down.

- \* During your pre-trip inspection, make sure your windshield wipers are in good shape and operating properly.
- \* If needed, pull safely over to the highway shoulder with the flashers on.
- \* Avoid contact with metal conducting surfaces either inside the vehicle or outside.
- \* Do not drive around road barriers – they are there for a reason.
- \* Allow extra distance for braking.      \* Avoid flooded highways.      \* Avoid trees due to lightning strikes.



... is the lucky winner of the gift certificate this month for turning in his signed newsletter.

## ATTENTION

Please review the February scorecard in the drivers lounge. There has been a slight change in the format. We are seeing areas that need improvement!!

I have read and understand the above information regarding "SEVERE WEATHER DRIVING".

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Signature

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Date