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## TRAFFIC ADVISORY

### Storms this week may bring driving problems

*High winds and snow could mean closing the Columbia River Gorge to traffic*

A series of storms with high winds and the potential for snow will complicate driving through the Portland area, Columbia River Gorge and mountain passes this week.

Forecasters are expecting high winds and three to six inches of snow late Tuesday and Wednesday in the Gorge with more expected in Hood River and the Hood River Valley. ODOT is prepared to close Interstate 84 in the Columbia River Gorge to traffic should conditions warrant. These conditions include limited visibility or extreme snow and ice covering the interstate.

The lower Cascades may see up to two feet of snow with up to three feet in the higher elevations. Motorists traveling over the Cascade passes should use extreme caution and plan on using tire chains. Before heading out, motorists should visit [www.tripcheck.com](http://www.tripcheck.com) to check tire chain requirements.

In the Portland area, the forecast is less certain, with snow, rain or a mix of both all possible during the Wednesday morning commute. Motorists should plan for extra time in their commute and use extreme caution, leaving plenty of distance between vehicles. Fender-benders are expensive, clog the highways and prohibit plows and other emergency vehicles from getting their work done.

Travelers everywhere should watch the forecast and know conditions on their route before hitting the road. Updated road information can be found at [www.tripcheck.com](http://www.tripcheck.com) and by calling 5-1-1.

**##ODOT##**