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Website: oregon.gov/ODOT
Twitter: @oregondot twitter.com/OregonDOT
Facebook: facebook.com/OregonDOT
YouTube www.youtube.com/OregonDOT
• Playlist: https://tinyurl.com/4ajvrha9
Flickr www.flickr.com/oregondot
• Photoset: https://flic.kr/s/aHsmVFymRc
Flash Alerts — Register for ODOT at www.flashalert.net

*Social media accounts are generally staffed weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. except in extreme conditions. For 24/7/365 coverage, please refer to www.TripCheck.com.*
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Road and weather information for Oregon and neighboring states
Oregon’s weather can change quickly and without warning. For road conditions in Oregon, call 511 or 800-977-ODOT (6368). Outside Oregon, dial 503-588-2941. Reports are updated continuously and available 24 hours a day.

Visit TripCheck.com for information on road and weather conditions, incidents and traffic delays. Links to cameras on many mountain passes and major routes give real-time views of road conditions. The site also provides links to bus, train and airport information, rest areas and other traveler services.

For questions about road maintenance or other issues, contact ODOT by phone at 888-ASK ODOT (888-275-6368) or by email at Ask.ODOT@odot.oregon.gov.

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Know before you go:
summer travel information

The Oregon Department of Transportation offers several ways for you to get the latest in traveler information.

Online: For the latest travel conditions, visit www.TripCheck.com, ODOT’s mobile-friendly travel information website. The site features:

- Maps updated in real time that display road conditions, color-coded traffic speeds on most roads across the state, trouble spots, weather, construction, maintenance and traffic incidents. You’ll also find high impact incidents prominently displayed as “alerts.”
- More than 400 camera images from key locations throughout Oregon as well as southern Washington and northern California.
- The ability to create and bookmark custom camera pages with up to 10 different cameras for quick checks of specific routes.
- Links to bus, airport, train, bicycle and trucking information and detailed information on scenic byways, safety rest areas and Sno-Parks.
- Waze user reports and traffic jams; these are overlaid on the TripCheck map, providing real-time traffic and road conditions from Wazers in the area.
- “Travel Time,” showing current travel times from key highway connections throughout the Portland metro area.
- Updated highway closure information; it’s now easier to view highway closure information on I-84 and I-5.

TripCheck information is also available via Twitter. Visit www.TripCheck.com and click on the Twitter page to learn more. TripCheck TV allows users to create a custom display of road condition information and camera images.

By phone: Call 511. Travelers in Oregon can dial 511 to access the same immediate road and weather information available on TripCheck. (Note: 511 does not have access to Waze data.)

- You can select updated reports about driving conditions by highway, mountain pass or major city from easy-to-use menus. The 511 system responds to both voice and touch-tone commands.
- Calls to 511 are local calls when dialed from a pay phone or wire line phone. Mobile phone users are responsible for airtime and roaming charges according to their wireless service contracts, but ODOT does not impose any additional charges.
- Most wireless companies in Oregon provide 511 service. If you cannot use 511, call toll-free (800) 977-ODOT (6368) for road and weather information. Outside Oregon, dial 503-588-2941.
- Oregon can forward users to the Washington state 511 system for road conditions in that state.

Remember, in Oregon, drivers are allowed to use hands-free devices but not texting devices or handheld devices. ODOT encourages motorists to pull off the road and park in a safe area before using mobile devices.

Links:
TripCheck: www.tripcheck.com
Report a road hazard

To report road hazards (trees down, electric wires across the road, road blocked by mud or rocks, etc.) call the nearest ODOT dispatch center.

- Portland metro area, Hood River area: 503-283-5859
- Mid-Willamette Valley, north coast: 503-362-0457
- Southern Willamette Valley, south coast: 541-858-3103
- Central and eastern Oregon: 541-383-0121

Report a brush fire or wildfire

Reports of fire, whether near the roadway, a burning car or in a residential area, should always be reported to 911.

Wazers: We encourage you to submit road hazards, incidents or other related conditions that you experience in order to help others stay safe and mobile.

Know Before You Go: Visit www.TripCheck.com, Oregon’s travel information website, for up-to-the-minute road conditions and more information on Oregon’s rest areas. You can also get the latest in road conditions by calling 511.

## ODOT ##
Map lets you see transportation projects happening in your area

It’s easy to see how and where Oregon’s state and federal transportation funds are spent using the ODOT Transportation Project Tracker. The interactive map lets you click, pan and zoom to find projects in your area. Filters allow you to sort by project type, phase and more.

The map is designed to show information about the scope, schedule and budget of projects and studies, including projects in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program known as the STIP, ODOT’s four-year capital improvement program. Use it to see what’s happening in your area.

Zoom in to use the search box to find a project. You’ll see a brief description and summary of the project. If it’s currently under construction, you’ll get a link to more information such as traffic impacts, upcoming work and more.

View the ODOT Transportation Project Tracker at https://gis.odot.state.or.us/tpt/. Detailed information about the data displayed is available on the ODOT website.

## ODOT ##

Links:

Project Tracker: https://gis.odot.state.or.us/tpt/

Using the Project Tracker: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Projects/Pages/UsingTPT.aspx

STIP Projects: www.oregon.gov/odot/STIP/Pages/index.aspx

ODOT Website: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Pages/index.aspx

# ODOT #
What to pack for a fun and safe summer road trip

Each summer, tens of thousands of Oregonians cram their vehicles full of people and pets, slap some shades over their eyes, and hit the road in search of adventure. It’s a time-honored American tradition, and Oregon’s landscape is an enticing parcel of the country to explore.

Most people have the basic summer road trip details down — where they’re going, and who’s coming with them — but it can be hard to know what items are the best to pack beyond the essentials like clothing and food.

To help jumpstart your packing plans, here are a few essential items to keep in your vehicle as you explore Oregon this summer:

• **Make sure your vehicle is in good working order.** Double check tire pressures, headlight and taillight bulbs, and that you have your vehicle’s documentation, like registration and proof of insurance.

• **Extra food and water.** Snacks and road trips are an iconic duo, but it’s always good to have extra food squirreled away in the car. Extra water is especially important, given the high summer temperatures in Oregon.

• **Paper road maps.** Oregon’s rugged landscape can get remote in some spots, and cell service isn’t guaranteed. Keep a road map of Oregon in your glove box as a backup. You can request one for free from ODOT by emailing odotmaps@odot.oregon.gov.

• **N95 mask for wildfire smoke.** Summer is wildfire season in Oregon. An N95 mask will help protect your lungs from harmful contaminants in the air. You can also see real-time air quality in Oregon with a mobile app called “OregonAir,” made by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

• **Hand sanitizer.** Having clean hands is one of the best ways to prevent illness. A small vial of hand sanitizer can be a lifesaver in many situations.

• **Sunglasses and sunblock.** Sunny skies are a summer staple, but harsh glare off water, cars or other surfaces can make it hard to see when you drive. Even a cheap pair of sunglasses can make a difference. And don’t forget to slather on that sunblock, too!

• **Blankets and warm clothing.** Nighttime can still get pretty chilly, even during summer. If your vehicle breaks down at night in a remote location, a blanket and warm clothes can help keep you cozy until help arrives.

• **Basic first aid kit.** Exploring Oregon can sometimes lead to bumps, scrapes and bruises. A basic first aid kit is easy (and cheap) to build, and can make a big difference if you get hurt.

• **Flashlight.** The sun may stay up past 8 p.m. during the summer, but it’s a good idea to have a flashlight tucked in a corner for emergencies.
• **Itinerary left with a friend or family member.** Let someone else know where you’re going, what route you’re taking, and when you plan to arrive at your destination. In the event you get lost and need help, that other person can relay information to emergency services.

Bonus tip: Know before you go! Before you head out, look at the weather forecast and check Tripcheck.com for road closures and travel information. If you can’t reach your destination safely, you’ll have time to think of a Plan B.

## ODOT ##

## ODOT ##
Save on gas with better driving habits and travel options

How do you experience Oregon’s beauty without breaking the bank from rising gas prices? How you operate your vehicle, as well as how much you drive, affects how much you’ll spend on gas this summer.

**Plan ahead and combine your trips**

A little bit of preparation can reduce several short trips which can use twice as much fuel as one trip covering the same distance.

**Reduce your idle time**

Idling wastes gas and increases carbon emissions — a contributor to air pollution. Idling can use a quarter to a half gallon of fuel per hour, depending on engine size and air conditioner use. Make sure you’re ready to go before starting your engine.

Idling also happens when you’re waiting in traffic. Know before you go to avoid delays, congestion and construction by visiting TripCheck.com. Estimated travel times along with travel alerts let you know where you might encounter trouble spots — giving you an opportunity to select a route with less idling time.

**Take it slow and steady**

Aggressive driving isn’t just a safety risk — it wastes gas too! Drive sensibly and avoid speeding, rapid acceleration and hard braking. Aggressive driving habits can lower your gas mileage by 15-30% and your city mileage by 10-40%.

**Share or rethink your ride**

Remember, when it comes to travel in Oregon — you have options. The best way to save on gas is to simply reduce your need for it!

Here are some options:

- Plan your trip using Get There Oregon, https://getthereoregon.org. You can enter your starting and ending locations and select the transit option to find information on routes.
- Use the Ride Board feature in Get There to find a one time shared ride.
- POINT intercity bus service, making connections all over the state: www.oregon-point.com.
- To get the latest tips for safety, including COVID-19 efforts, visit our Public Transportation Division website: www.oregon.gov/odot/RPTD/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx.

**Links:**

- Get There
  https://getthereoregon.org
- Amtrak Cascades
  https://amtrakoregon.com/
- POINT
  www.oregon-point.com
- COVID-19 Information
  www.oregon.gov/odot/RPTD/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx
Know Before You Go: Visit TripCheck.com, Oregon’s travel information website, for up-to-the-minute road conditions and more information on transportation options. You can also get the latest in road conditions by calling 511.

## ODOT ##
Summer is the ideal time for maintenance on roads, highways, bridges, etc. because it’s Oregon’s driest season. Construction can be inconvenient, especially when you’re running late to your destination. Plan ahead and know BEFORE you go. Use TripCheck.com to look for scheduled construction in your area or along your routes.

Then, make sure to give yourself extra time to get where you need to go.

Watch out for workers in work zones. Their lives are literally on the line. Always stay alert and ditch distractions! Drive with extreme caution and slow down before you enter — and when passing through — work zones. You may encounter increased enforcement activity near a work zone. Remember, fines are doubled in work zones.

Safety for everyone on the road is important to us. However, drivers going through work zones must do their part. Maintain a safe work environment for construction workers, fellow drivers, and people who are walking and rolling through the area.

For a complete list of scheduled work on Oregon highways, please visit: https://gis.odot.state.or.us/tpt or www.tripcheck.com.

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**Links:**

**Statewide projects:**
https://gis.odot.state.or.us/tpt/

**TripCheck:**
www.TripCheck.com

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## ODOT ##
Traveling through a work zone is both a lot easier and a lot harder than you might think.

First, it’s easier because you have to slow down and be alert. Those are among the basics for all drivers. Use caution, watch where you’re going and keep your eyes wide open.

Second, it’s harder than you might think because — more than many other driving conditions — lives are at stake. But it’s not just road workers in jeopardy. More drivers and passengers are injured and killed each year than highway workers.

That said, we all need to remember to slow down and expect delays whenever we see orange signs, barrels, cones and barricades and not just in work zones but also in the transition areas leading to them. We must use as much caution when a work zone isn’t active because there can be bumps, barriers and narrower lanes during the entire length of a project.

Work-zone crashes are preventable. Here are 10 reminders:

1. Drive as if you work there. Think about what it would be like if you had a semi going by your office cubicle at 60 mph.

2. Stay alert and minimize distractions. Dedicate your full attention to the road, avoid changing radio stations while in a work zone, and never use a cell phone while driving.

3. Expect the unexpected. Normal speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people may be working on or near the road.

4. Obey speed signs. Work zone speed limits may be reduced to keep you and workers safe. Excessive speed is a major factor in all fatal crashes.

5. Move over to give workers more room when possible.

6. Obey road flaggers. Flaggers know what’s best for work zone traffic and they have the same authority as a regulatory sign. You can be cited for disobeying their directions.

7. Remember that fines double in all Oregon work zones, whether or not workers and signs are present.

8. Don’t tailgate. Keep a safe distance between you and the car ahead of you. The most common crash in a highway work zone is the rear end collision.

9. Pay attention to the signs. The warning signs are there to help you move safely through the work zone. Observe posted signs until you see the one that says you’ve left the work zone.

10. Chill out. Work zones aren’t there to personally inconvenience you. Remember, the work zone crews are improving the road and making your future driving experience better. And they need to go home to their families too.
### Work Zone Crash Data For 2020*

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<th>Serious Injury (number of persons)</th>
<th>Any Injury (including serious; number of persons)</th>
<th>Property Damage (crash resulted only in property damage)</th>
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<td>16</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Most recent data available.

## ODOT ##
Camping season is upon us! While gearing up for a road or camping trip, don’t forget that it is illegal to transport loads that drag or leak on highways, roads, etc. Loads that drag, such as trailer chains, can throw sparks and pose a serious wildfire risk — creating an opportunity to ignite vegetation on the nearby shoulder.

Make sure that your load:

- Does not drag, shift, or leak on the pavement.
- Is marked with a light or flag on the end, if required.
- Is directly tied to the vehicle or trailer.
- Is not overloaded and does not obstruct the driver’s view.
- Does not interfere with control or operation of the vehicle.

Secure your load using ropes, netting, straps, or chains. Stop and check the load frequently. Make sure that the items you’re carrying won’t come loose or fall off during transport.

For more information on these permits/laws, please visit:


Remember that all passengers must be secured, too. Buckle up! Be sure that children are sitting in the appropriate car seat for their size as well.

## ODOT ##

Links:

Securing your load resources: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Safety/Documents/Securing_Your_Cargo_or_Load_ORS.pdf
Drivers: Be prepared, drive healthy

Use healthy habits when driving in summer…

- **Focus on driving.** No matter the weather, conditions can change quickly, so it’s important to focus on the road ahead. Put away distractions like cell phones, tablets and other electronic devices. Keep your hands on the wheel and your mind on the road.

- **Drive sober.** There are many reasons to celebrate during the summer months, but if you’re driving, it’s critical that you be sober and clear-headed. Driving sober isn’t limited to alcohol or illegal drugs. Marijuana, prescription drugs – even over-the-counter medicines – can affect driving behavior. Don’t get lulled into complacency by jokes that marijuana users will only drive slower when under the influence. Your ability to react and avert hazards is also slowed. Even lower speed crashes can end in tragedy when you mix your vehicle with people walking or biking.

- **Be rested.** It’s tempting to push yourself during longer days with increased daylight hours, but if you drive too long your fatigue will overshadow your focus. If you’re feeling tired, take a break – before it’s too late.

- **Prepare ahead of time.** Check road conditions before you head out by visiting www.TripCheck.com or calling 511. Make sure your safety kit is stowed in the trunk, and tell someone where you are going and what route you are taking.

- **Watch out for each other, on and near the road.** You may have great driving habits. You may be prepared, but that doesn’t always remain true for everyone else. Be diligent, pack your patience and drive defensively; watch for pedestrians and bicycles by routinely scanning your environment and slowing down when they are present.

## ODOT ##
As temperatures rise over the next couple months, it is important to be prepared for taking on the heat. On and off the road, there is the danger of heat-related illness during the summer.

To help prevent heat-related illnesses such as heat exhaustion, try these things:

- Stay in a cool, air conditioned place. If your car’s AC doesn’t work, try getting it fixed before it gets too hot. If your car doesn’t have AC, take measures to ensure that there is a steady airflow in the vehicle. Or take more frequent stops in air-conditioned places.
- Drink lots of water. Staying hydrated is a key factor in preventing heat-related illnesses. And be sure to travel with extra water for everyone in the car (including pets).
- Plan ahead. By using www.TripCheck.com, you can more easily accommodate to traffic conditions.

Remember, kids and pets and hot cars can be a deadly combination. Don’t take the chance. Always look in the front and back of the vehicle before locking the door and walking away. Never leave a child or a pet alone in a parked car, even with the windows rolled down or the air conditioning on.
Summer is upon us, and that means our youngest drivers are out and about. The 100 days of summer are considered the deadliest days for drivers, especially teen drivers. According to the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, nationwide more than 7,000 people died in teen-driving related summertime crashes from 2010 to 2019. Speeding is one of the leading causes of fatal crashes involving teen drivers. Additionally, distracted driving or driving impaired are the leading causes of crashes for drivers of all ages.

To reduce the possibility for crashes this summer (or any day of the year), talk to your teen about avoiding unnecessary risks while driving:

- Speeding greatly reduces your reaction time and increases your risk. It also reduces your peripheral vision field, making it more likely you won’t see objects or people about to enter the roadway.
- Impairment or “buzzed” driving can happen in a flash when drinking alcohol or taking drugs (even over-the-counter medicines!).
- Distractions are deadly! In Oregon, teens under 18 years of age are completely prohibited from using a cell phone (even hands-free) for any purpose while driving.
- Ask friends to act as a “co-pilot” for younger drivers to lend an extra set of eyes and remind them of their responsibility to help keep the car safe! They can also control the driver’s phone for them!

Summer is for making great memories, not tragedies. Teens are very capable of driving correctly and their best coach is their parent or guardian!

## ODOT ##
You’ve heard it a million times: “Look both ways!” and “Watch out for pedestrians!” Well, you’re about to hear it again. The safety of Oregonians will always be of utmost importance. Take this time to freshen up on your crosswalk laws — whether you’re a pedestrian or a driver (or both).

Remember…

- In Oregon, every intersection is a crosswalk — even if it’s not marked with crosswalk lines. Every corner where two roads intersect is a crosswalk.
- Crosswalks may also exist between intersections (mid-block), but only when marked with painted white lines.
- By law, a pedestrian is in a crosswalk when any part of the pedestrian moves into the roadway at a crosswalk, with the intent to proceed.
- That includes not only the pedestrian’s body, but also a wheelchair, cane, crutch, bicycle or any other extension of the person.
- A driver may be fined more than $250 for failing to stop for a pedestrian.
- School may be out for the summer (meaning no school zones), but you still need to be alert for children in the roadways!
- Human pedestrians aren’t the only pedestrians to look out for! Remember to watch for wildlife crossing the roadways.

Make sure to stop well ahead of the crosswalk area to give other drivers and pedestrians better visibility.

## ODOT ##
Driving during smoky conditions

Before you go

- Check your entire route before setting out. Conditions may be very different at your destination.
- Find an alternate route. Fire is wildly unpredictable, especially in high winds. If possible, find a route that takes you away from fires.
- Have your car ready before you go. Make sure you have a full gas tank before leaving and that your vehicle is in good condition. Have water, food, and carry an emergency kit with extra water and medications for all your passengers, including and for any pets you bring.

On the road

- Slow down and stay alert. Slow driving gives you more time to respond to unexpected conditions.
- Turn on your headlights. Even during daylight hours your headlights will help others on the road see you. Use low-beams as high-beams reflect off particles in the air and cause glare.
- Use fog lights. If you have them, fog lights can help cut through the smoke.
- Pay attention. You need to drive, not take pictures. Especially when there’s a fire.
- Keep plenty of space between you and other vehicles. Visibility decreases in smoke. Maintain a safe stopping distance between you and the vehicle up front.
- If visibility becomes too dangerous to continue, pull off to the side of the road as soon as safely possible.
- Never stop in a travel lane. Look for a safe area completely away from the road if possible and turn off all lights — including emergency flashers — until it’s safe to continue.
- Don’t tailgate. Keep a steady, reliable pace. Remember that everyone else on the road is in the same fix you’re in. They’re counting on you to help show the way.
- Roll up the windows. Set your fan to recirculate.

Preventing wildfires

Don’t add fuel to a potential fire.

- When pulling off of the road, stay on paved surfaces whenever possible. Avoid the side of the road where flammables such as dry grass can come in contact with your vehicle’s hot components including the exhaust system or catalytic converter.
• Never toss a cigarette or any flammable materials out the window of the vehicle. Extinguish all smoking materials completely and thoroughly and away from dry grass and fuels.

• Secure chains and make sure they aren’t dragging. That can cause sparks.

**Maintain your car and carry the right equipment**

• Maintain proper tire pressure as driving on rims will throw off sparks.

• Prevent vehicle fires by having your vehicle serviced regularly by a professionally trained mechanic. Heat and electrical sparks that come into contact with leaking flammable car fluids can easily start a car fire.

• Carry a fire extinguisher in your car and know how to use it.

**Be alert**

• If you see something, say something. People behaving carelessly with fireworks or other flammables must be told of the dangers.

• Know wildfire risks and restrictions in your area.

• All of us have a responsibility to do whatever we can to prevent human caused wildfires.

## ODOT ##
Driving in the rain during summer

It sounds a little paradoxical, but summertime and fresh rain can create a perfect storm on the highways. Rain creates dangerous driving conditions: reduced visibility, reduced traction between tires and the road, and less predictable car handling. When it’s raining, be cautious and give yourself more time to get where you are going. Also remember to:

- Slow down. Driving through several inches of water at high speed can cause you to lose control of the car; it could also splash water into the engine and stall it. Lowering your speed helps you prepare for sudden stops caused by disabled cars, debris and other wet-weather hazards.

- Expect road surfaces to be slick if it hasn’t rained in a while and it does start to rain. Engine oil and grease build up on the road over time. When mixed with water from rain, the road can become slick. The first few hours of a fresh rain can be the most dangerous.

- Disengage your cruise control.

- Turn on your headlights to improve visibility.

- Keep your distance. A car needs two to three times more stopping distance on wet roads.

Maintain your vehicle during wet weather

The most common vehicle problems in wet weather involve wipers, brakes, tires and defrosters.

- Before heading out in wet weather, check your wipers for signs of damage. Replace wiper blades regularly. Make sure your defroster is functioning properly, especially if you haven’t used it in a while.

- Check your brakes. After driving through a puddle, check that your brakes are working properly by tapping them gently a few times.

- Check your tires. Make sure tires are in good condition and are at the recommended inflation level. Tires should have a recommended 2/32 of an inch tread depth at any two adjacent grooves. Driving on over-inflated or under-inflated tires is dangerous on wet pavement.

Watch for hydroplaning conditions

Hydroplaning occurs when your front tires ride on a film of water. It can occur at speeds as low as 35 mph, especially if tires are worn. If you hydroplane, ease off the gas, gently apply the brakes and steer straight ahead.

## ODOT ##
Experience Oregon’s awesome roads safely

It’s a no-brainer: experience makes you a better motorcycle rider. So, first things first — we suggest you take a class! In fact, if you don’t already have a motorcycle endorsement, you are required to take a class to get one. Check out Oregon’s motorcycle and moped handbook for more information.

Either way, take a course!

Safe motorcycling takes balance, coordination and good judgment. Completing a motorcycle rider education course (like those offered by Team Oregon) is a good way to ensure you have the correct instruction and experience it takes to ride a motorcycle safely.

Wear a helmet

Helmets are required in Oregon. Make sure it is DOT-certified. For the best protection, wear a full face helmet with a face shield. You’ll want to replace your helmet every 3 – 5 years (follow manufacturer’s direction), and if you can’t find a comfortable fit, get professionally fitted.

Reduce your chances of getting hit

Motorcyclists are often hit when a vehicle turns left across traffic in front of them or pulls out from the right in front of them. In both cases, drivers will often say they didn’t see the bike. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there are some key things riders can do to reduce the chances of getting hit:

- Follow the posted speeds to ensure drivers’ expectations are accurate and to ensure you can stop if necessary.
- Maintain a lane position and following distance (at least 4 seconds) that ensures visibility to all drivers.
- Wear protective clothing that contrasts with your background, and ensure your headlight is on.
- Practice your emergency stops and ride within your own abilities.

Also, take special care to navigate intersections safely. Check for traffic on all sides and only move forward on green after you deem it’s safe.

Other tips to enjoy the ride

- Get to know your motorcycle by practicing. That way you can handle changing road conditions, weather and traffic.
- Have a procedure you follow before every ride: check tire pressure, fluid levels, brakes, lights; secure your cargo; wear proper gear; etc.
- Ride responsibly — obey traffic lights, signs, speed limits. Ride your best — sober, well-rested and focused on the task of expertly operating your motorcycle. Enjoy!

## ODOT ##

Links:

Motorcycle and moped handbook: www.oregon.gov/odot/forms/dmv/6367.pdf

Team Oregon website: https://team-oregon.org

Bicycle safety in summertime

Summer brings more daylight hours, and that means more people on bikes, more children out walking and rolling since school is out. But just because it’s light for longer doesn’t mean safety moves to the backburner.

People who ride bikes and people who drive cars need to share our roadways by obeying the traffic laws, respecting each other’s rights, and being courteous to all people using the roads.

In Oregon traffic law, bicycles are considered “vehicles” and abide by the same rules a vehicle would.

But there is one law that came into effect January 2020 that’s different: People on bicycles can roll through stop sign intersections if they slow the bicycle to a safe speed. People on bicycles can also make a right or left turn into a two-way street, or make a turn into a one-way street in the direction of traffic without stopping first. This law also applies to red flashing light intersections. It does not apply to intersections controlled by traffic lights.

Oregon law requires that anyone under the age of 16 who is riding a bicycle or being carried on a bicycle to wear approved protective headgear. The parent or person with legal responsibility for the safety and welfare of a child is held responsible.

Top tips for drivers to keep cyclists safe

- A sharrow marks a lane that is shared by people driving and people biking — this helps move traffic more efficiently. When you see sharrow markings, expect a person on a bike to take the lane: https://youtu.be/qWq2uMZbIXY.

- Open your car door with the hand that is farthest away — this will prompt you to turn further and be more likely to see anyone riding alongside you, so you can avoid dooring a passerby.

- Where speeds are greater than 35 mph, you may only pass a person riding a bicycle in your lane when it is safe to do so and if you leave enough distance to prevent contact with the person riding a bicycle if they were to fall. This is called “fall distance.”

- The faster you drive, the more likely you are to kill a person on a bike if there is a crash: 20mph = 10% chance of death, 30mph = 40% chance of death, 40mph = 80% chance of death.

For people on bicycles, some safety tips:

- Ride a bike that fits you — if it’s too big, it’s harder to control the bike.

- Ride a bike that works — it really doesn’t matter how well you ride if the brakes don’t work.

Links:


Sharrow video: https://youtu.be/qWq2uMZbIXY

Commute Options: www.commuteoptions.org

Sharrow markings

![Sharrow markings](image-url)
• Wear equipment to protect yourself and to make you more visible to others, like a bike helmet, bright clothing, reflective gear, and a white front light and red rear light and reflectors on your bike (at night, or when visibility is poor).
• Ride one per seat, with both hands on the handlebars, unless signaling a turn.
• Carry all items in a backpack or strapped to the back of the bike.
• Keep an eye on the weather and pack enough water to stay hydrated.
• Tuck and tie your shoe laces and pant legs so they don’t get caught in your bike chain.
• Plan your route — if driving as a vehicle on the road, choose routes with less traffic and slower speeds. Your safest route may be away from traffic altogether, in a bike lane, on a bike path, or along a greenway.

We should be conscientious about each other — people on bicycles as well as people driving; we are all people getting to the places we want to go.

## ODOT ##

This information is provided by Commute Options located in Bend.

Commute Options promotes active transportation including walking, bicycling, carpooling, vanpooling, telecommuting and transit.

Learn more at www.commuteoptions.org.
The summer months bring the heat, which means there is a higher chance of your engine overheating. Nobody wants their commercial vehicle (or any other vehicle) to break down on the side of the road. But if this happens, ODOT can help!

Things to remember before you go...

- Check all fluid levels — specifically coolant. If there is a leak, be sure to get it fixed.
- Traffic condition updates and diagrams are posted on Oregon’s travel information website, www.TripCheck.com. Road condition information is also available by phone. From within Oregon, call 511 or 1-800-977-ODOT (6368). From outside Oregon, dial 503-588-2941.
- Be prepared. Bring an emergency kit with roadside assistance equipment, a first aid kit and tools.
- Be aware of farm equipment and other slow-moving vehicles, especially on rural highways.

For more information on commercial driving in Oregon, visit the Commerce and Compliance Division of ODOT here: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/MCT/Pages/Index.aspx

## ODOT ##

Tips and resources for commercial vehicles

Links:

ODOT Commerce and Compliance Division: www.oregon.gov/ODOT/MCT/Pages/Index.aspx

## ODOT ##
Sharing the road with trucks

Safety rules aren’t one size fits all when it comes to sharing the road with extra wide, tall or heavy vehicles. Super size loads require special attention.

- Large trucks have blind spots, or ‘No Zones,’ around the front, back and sides of the truck. Stay out of the ‘No Zone.’ Make your car visible by either pulling ahead or dropping back so the driver can see you. If you can’t see the truck’s mirrors, the truck driver can’t see you.

- Pilot cars in front or in back of a large truck serve as a buffer between the load and other vehicles. Allow them space to do their jobs. Don’t get between a pilot car and a big truck.

- Allow trucks adequate space to maneuver. A super sized truck can take 400 feet — more than the length of a football field to stop. Trucks make wide turns at intersections and require additional lanes to turn. Keep a safety cushion between your car and the truck.

- Watch for large loads when merging on to the highway. Look ahead and behind, using mirrors and checking blind spots to merge into traffic quickly and safely.

Additional tips

- Don’t cut off trucks. For safety’s sake, it’s recommended that you maintain one car length for every 10 miles per hour of speed.

- Don’t tailgate. Unlike cars, trucks have large blind spots behind them. Drivers who tailgate trucks can’t see traffic ahead. If the truck brakes suddenly, you won’t have time to react and no place to go.

- Don’t speed. Speed is a leading cause of all fatal crashes in Oregon.

- Car-at-fault truck crashes are primarily due to cars driving in truck blind spots or traffic violations by car drivers, such as: speeding, tailgating, failure to yield and negligent or reckless driving.

## ODOT ##

# ODOT #
Reporting road hazards

How do I report issues on state highways?

To report needed repairs such as potholes or damaged signs contact the nearest ODOT Maintenance District. If you need help finding a phone number or have a question about whom to call, contact our Ask ODOT staff, 1-888-275-6368 (1-888-ASK-ODOT) or email AskODOT@odot.state.or.us

How do I report a drunk or impaired driver?

Report possible drunk or drugged drivers by calling 1-800-243-7865.

How do I report unsafe operation of a commercial truck?

Call the Truck Safety Hotline 1-800-248-6782 or use the online form to report a truck speeding, tailgating, changing lanes unsafely, or spilling its load. This service is provided by ODOT’s Commerce and Compliance Division.

How do I report dirty or unsafe conditions at a rest area?

Many of the safety rest areas along state highways and freeways are managed by the Oregon Travel Information Council. Contact them at 877-527-6560. To determine who operates a Safety Rest Area go to Tripcheck.com and open the Travel Center drop-down menu.

How do I report debris or issues with a highway after hours?

Call one of ODOT’s regional dispatch centers to report a road hazard, such as debris in the road or unsafe conditions.

- Portland metro area, Hood River area: 503-283-5859
- Willamette Valley, north coast: 503-362-0457
- Southwest and south central Oregon: 541-858-3103
- North central and eastern Oregon: 541-383-0121

For life threatening emergencies, call 911.
Graphics

**MOVE OVER FOR STOPPED EMERGENCY VEHICLES.**

Slow Down. The Way to Go.
Transportation Safety – ODOT

**BE AWARE OF BLIND SPOTS**

- OK 1 Lane OK
- 30ft
- OK 20ft
- 2 Lanes OK
3.14 FACTS ABOUT
NEWTON’S LAWS AND HIGHWAY SAFETY

You can change speed laws, but you can’t change the laws of physics.

NEWTON’S FIRST LAW:
An object in motion continues in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon.

Hours it takes to travel 100 miles

- Speed limit 60 mph: 1:40:00
- Speed limit 65 mph: 1:32:18
- Speed limit 70 mph: 1:25:42

You don’t save as much time as you think!

NEWTON’S SECOND LAW:
Acceleration is produced when a force acts on a mass. The greater the mass the greater the amount of force needed.

Braking distance at selected speeds

- Speed limit 60 mph: 272 feet
- Speed limit 65 mph: 311 feet
- Speed limit 70 mph: 354 feet

With greater speed comes greater responsibility.

From your goal line to your opponent’s 10 yard line
- Distance in feet

From your goal line to deep in your opponent’s end zone
- Distance in Football Fields

From your goal line through your opponent’s end zone and into the bleachers

NEWTON’S THIRD LAW:
For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Seatbelt use in a collision

With a seatbelt: At 30 mph, the force of a collision on a 160 lb person is 3,120 pounds — the equivalent of 10 Gs

Without a seatbelt: At 30 mph, the force of a collision on a 160 lb person is 34,000 pounds — the equivalent of 150 Gs

You can go faster, but your body can’t stop faster.

SLOW DOWN. ENJOY THE RIDE.
Work Zone Crashes: an Avoidable Tragedy

Each year in Oregon...

- 5 People die in work zone crashes
- 18 Fatal or serious injury crashes occur
- 540 Crashes happen in work zones

3 Main causes of work zone crashes:
- INATTENTION
- SPEED
- DRIVING TOO FAST FOR CONDITIONS

FACT: Drivers and passengers are more likely to be killed than workers

What we’re doing:
- Engineering: Working to make roads and work zones safer
- Enforcement: Partnering with law enforcement for extra presence
- Education: Providing public information and materials
- Emergency Medical Services: Coordinating with first responders

What you can do:
- SLOW DOWN!
- Pay attention
- Obey signs and flaggers

FINES DOUBLE 24/7. WORKERS OR NOT. RESPECT THE ZONE. The Way to Go. ODOT
Safe Summer Cycling

For Drivers:
- Share the road
- Watch for snarrows and bike lanes, and expect cyclists to be in them.
- Look both ways at intersections
- Cyclists can roll through stop signs in intersections, or they could make a turn.
- Be careful opening doors
- Watch for approaching cyclists
- Look down the road and use your mirrors.
- Slow Down
- The faster you drive, the worse the potential outcome in a crash.

For people on bikes:
- Ride smart
  - One rider per seat, both hands on the handlebars — unless you are signaling a turn.
  - Carry items in a backpack or strapped to the back of the bike.
  - Keep an eye on the weather
  - Pack appropriate gear.
  - Stay hydrated
  - Plan your route
  - If you are riding as a vehicle on the road, choose routes with less traffic and slower speeds.

Ride a bike that fits
- Ride a bike that's right for you: if it's too big, it's harder to control.

Ride a bike that works
- A well-maintained bike is safer to operate.

Wear protective equipment
- Always wear a helmet. Oregon law requires anyone under 16 riding a bike or being carried on a bike to wear protective headgear.

Make yourself visible
- Wear bright clothing reflective gear.
- Equip your bike with a white front light and red rear light and reflectors.
What do you get on TripCheck?

- Incidents
- Real time updates
- Twitter alerts
- Traffic cameras
- Weather
- Construction
- Crashes
- Travel options
- Waze reports
- Statewide travel times

Know before you go.

Source: www.TripCheck.com
Before you travel, check your car to make sure it’s in good working order.

- Check tire pressure, tread
- Check lights, indicators, controls
- Check wipers, wiper fluid
- Check fluid levels
- Tools: jack, lug wrench, shovel
- Road map
- Cell phone and car adapter
- First aid kit
- Pocket knife
- Battery jumper cables
- Rechargeable flashlight
- Extra food and water
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Your car’s owner manual
- Fire extinguisher
Road and weather information for Oregon and neighboring states

Oregon

511 inside Oregon
1-800-977-ODOT (1-800-977-6368) inside Oregon
1-503-588-2941 outside Oregon

Washington

511 inside Washington
1-800-695-ROAD (1-800-695-7623) outside Washington

California

1-800-427-ROAD (1-800-427-7623)

Idaho

511 inside Idaho
1-888-IDA-ROAD (1-888-432-7623)

Nevada

511 inside Nevada
1-877- NVROADS (1-877-687-6237)