

SMART DRIVER[®] September 2021

TIME TO DISCUSS FALL DRIVING HAZARDS

Fall is quickly approaching, and with it comes seasonal hazards that can lead to animal strikes, loss of control crashes, and other losses. Read the information below about various fall driving hazards and decide how you can improve your driving techniques.

SLIPPERY ROAD CONDITIONS

When moisture from rain and dew mixes with oils and dust on the road, the surface becomes slippery and has decreased traction. Likewise, leaves falling on the road, especially if wet, create adverse road conditions. Always observe the proper speed for conditions.

FIRST FREEZE

Colder temperatures bring frost and ice, even black ice. Always be cautious when driving on bridges and overpasses because they will freeze before the roadway. Also, invest enough time for a proper pre-trip inspection; checking tire tread depth, defrosting the windows, and cleaning the mirrors.

BACK TO SCHOOL

September means back to school time for most children. Expect traffic congestion along bus routes, reduced speed limits in school zones, and the increased risk of pedestrians on or near the roadway.

Be extra vigilant, slow down, and be prepared to stop suddenly.

SUN GLARE

During sunrise and sunset, it can be difficult to see traffic lights or even the vehicle in front due to sun glare. Slow down, allow proper following distance, and wear sunglasses to reduce glare. If possible, avoid driving during these times of the day or plan breaks until the hazard is gone.

FATIGUE

Shorter days and the end of daylight savings time can disrupt sleep patterns. Remember to get plenty of rest and avoid heavy meals loaded with carbohydrates and sugary, caffeinated drinks, such as soda. Most crashes occur in the early morning hours and right after lunch.

ROAD OBSTACLES

This time of year brings unique road obstacles, such as slow-moving, less-conspicuous vehicles, like farm equipment on rural roads, and increased animal traffic. Be patient around farm vehicles and do not pass unless it is safe and legal to do so. Look for warning signs and other evidence of animals crossing and slow down, stay in one lane to avoid a loss of control crash.



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Knowledge Verification

Driver's Name: _____

Driver's Signature: _____

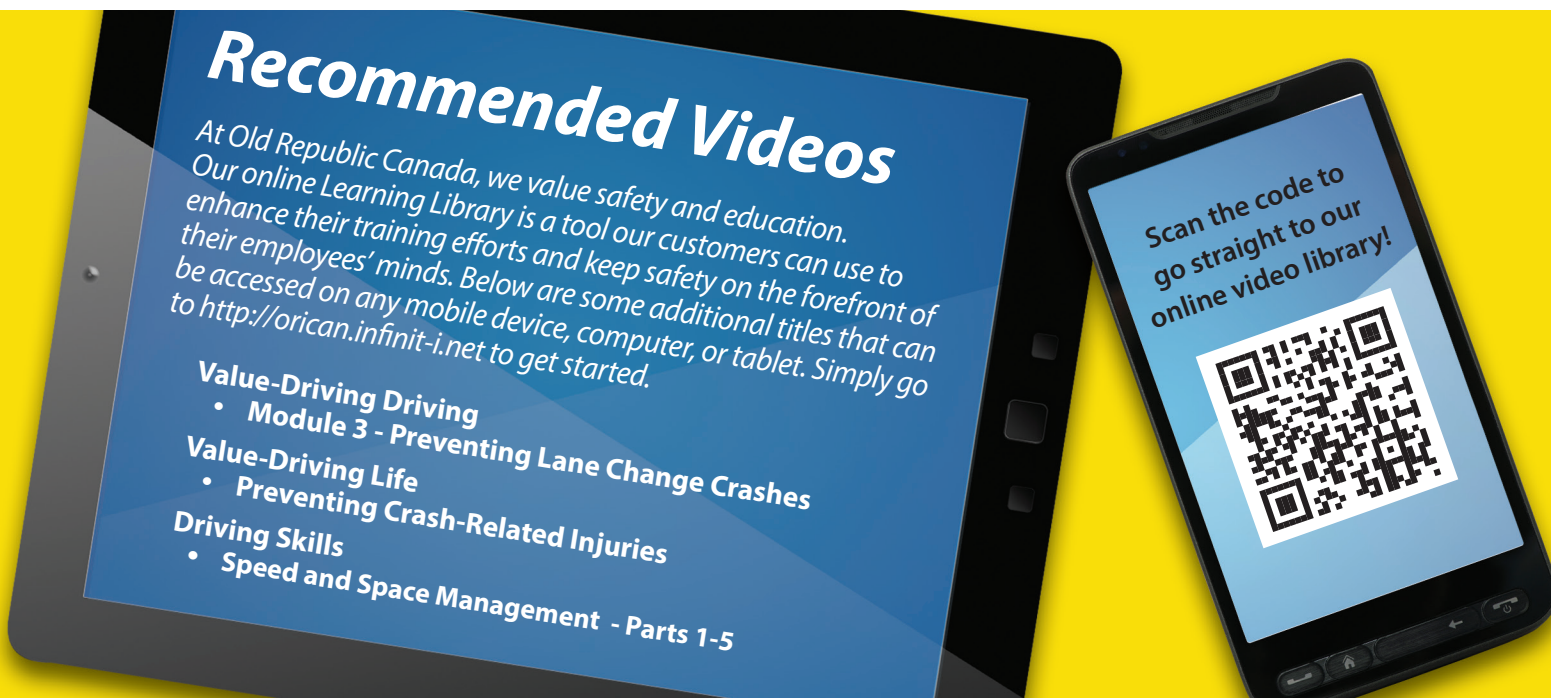
Date: _____ Witness Name: _____

Please answer, and forward a completed copy to your Safety Department/Safety Representative.

1. Leaves falling on the road, especially if wet, create adverse road conditions.
2. Bridges and overpasses will freeze first before the roadway.
3. Driving conditions during sunset and sunrise are among the best.
4. You should consume heavy meals loaded with carbohydrates and sugar to avoid fatigue

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| <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> True | <input type="checkbox"/> False |

Answers:
1. True
2. True
3. False
4. False



FALL DRIVING HAZARDS