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Governor

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Press Release

## **Drive Safe in Wintery Weather & Give Road Crews Extra Room**

**Santa Fe** – As wintery weather moves across New Mexico, snow and ice can pose a potential for dangerous driving conditions.

The New Mexico Department of Transportation's road crews are hard at work in affected areas, plowing roads and spreading salt and cinder. NMDOT workers are also on standby in other areas should the roads there become affected by the weather.

The NMDOT reminds motorists that if they come up behind a snowplow or sander working, not to get too close. Stay back at least 200 feet. Please slow down and stay far enough back so you are not hit by the sand or cause the driver problems. When meeting snowplows or sanders, please slow down and give them enough room to do their work.

### Winter Driving Safety Tips:

- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room between you and the car in front of you.
- Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.
- Be especially careful on bridges and overpasses which will freeze first.
- Keep a winter survival kit in your vehicle. Include items such as a flashlight, batteries, a blanket, snacks, water, gloves, boots, first-aid kit, ice scraper, jumper cables and road flares.

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