

Susana Martinez Governor

Tom ChurchCabinet Secretary

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Press Release

Crews Working To Keep Roads Safe

Santa Fe- The New Mexico Department of Transportation has maintenance personnel monitoring roadways and clearing those affected by the recent rainfall. With more monsoon storms in the forecast, the NMDOT wants to assure the public that we are working around the clock to keep our roadways safe. This includes clearing debris on roads and unplugging culverts to prevent water from running onto roadways.

The NMDOT posts traffic updates as they are reported on our road advisory website, <u>www.nmroads.com</u> That information call also be retrieved by calling the NMDOT's road condition hotline at 511 or 1-800-432-4269.

Tips for driving on wet roads:

- Slow down. It takes longer to stop or adjust your speed in wet weather.
- Be more alert when driving in wet or slippery conditions. Watch out for brake lights in front of you.
- Maintain proper following distance (3 Second Rule). This needs to be increased in wet weather.
- Stay toward the middle lanes water tends to pool in the outside lanes.
- Turn on your headlights, even in a light rain or in gloomy, foggy or overcast conditions. Not only do they help you see the road, but they will help other drivers see you.
- Never drive through moving water if you can't see the ground through it; your vehicle could be swept off the road.
- Avoid driving through deep water, because it can cause serious damage to a vehicle's electrical system.

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