



# Risk Quick Tips . . . .

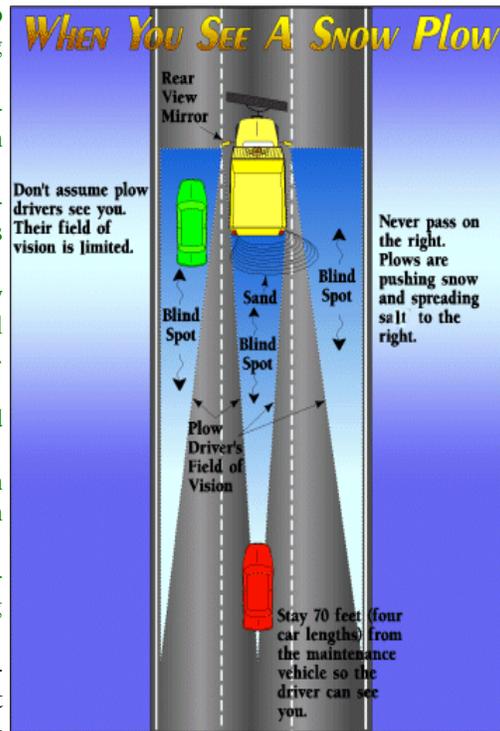
November, 2008

## Watch For Snowplows

Every year, the North Dakota Department of Transportation advises drivers to be cautious of winter weather conditions, watch for snowplows and drive with care. Snow plows are big machines with poor visibility to the rear and some blind spots in the back and side areas of the plow. Remember – **Don't Crowd the Plow** - it could save your life!

**NDDOT's tips for sharing the road with snowplows this winter:**

- **Stay well back.** Sometimes snowplows have to stop and back up and they often throw sanding material.
- **Know where the plow is** on multi-lane roadways. The plow could be in either the lane or on the shoulder.
- **Be extremely cautious** when passing a snowplow. They can be moved sideways by drifts and hard snow pack.
- **Never drive through "white-outs"** caused by crosswinds or plowing snow. Snowplows pull over and stop frequently to allow traffic to pass. Be patient and wait until you can see.
- **Watch** for plows trucks on interstate ramps and "authorized vehicle only" cross-overs.
- **Don't assume** that you'll have good traction because the road looks sanded. The sand can sink into the snow pack, leaving a slick surface.
- **Slow down** and drive according to the conditions. Most winter crashes are caused by driving too fast for conditions.
- Travelers are urged to - **Know Before You Go** - check road conditions by dialing '511' or visit the website [www.511.nd.gov](http://www.511.nd.gov) for the most up-to-date information available.



### Are You Aware Of These ND Laws?

1) **Striking Snow Removal Equipment:** Any person who, by reasons of careless driving, causes and inflicts injury to an operator of snow removal equipment or damage to snow removal equipment in excess of \$1,000 is guilty of an infraction. Maximum penalty is \$500 and 6 points.

2) **Road Closure:** Law enforcement may close a road temporarily due to hazardous conditions for the protection and safety of the public. No person may knowingly enter a road closure under these conditions.

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