

## Winter Parking / Driving

### Winter parking

Maple Plain's winter parking ordinance is in effect from November 1, - April 1. No parking is allowed on public streets between the hours of 1 a.m. to 7 a.m. If an emergency arises that would require you to park on the street between these hours, call our office at (763) 479-0500 and get our permission so that you do not receive a citation.

### Winter Driving

Each winter our department investigates several accidents due to improper preparation of their car for winter driving.

It is important to completely clean the snow off of your car for a safe and trouble-free trip. Snow from the hood will blow back and cause further defrosting problems. It can also melt and refreeze on your windshield. The snow on the roof will cover the rear window; snow on the rear deck will blow down onto your taillights, causing them to become invisible to people who are following behind you.

A few other safe winter driving tips:

- Be sure to fully defrost or scrape all windows on your vehicle.
- Make sure that your car has been properly serviced, the brakes are in proper working order and the exhaust and cooling systems have been checked.
- Keep your gas tank over half-full to avoid moisture in gas lines from freezing.
- Stock your car with the basic winter driving equipment: windshield scraper; brush; small shovel; jumper cables; tow chain; and a bag of sand or cat litter for traction. Include emergency items such as road flares, a blanket, flashlight, and extra batteries.
- Put together an emergency survival kit to keep in your car: a metal bucket or coffee can; a small candle with matches or a disposable lighter; a brightly colored square piece of cloth such as a bandana; a basic 1<sup>st</sup> aid kit; a large plastic garbage bag for insulating feet, legs and torso; and high energy non-perishable foods.