

# 7 TIPS FOR SPRING DRIVING

1

## **Drive slowly and use caution in the rain.**

Keep your headlights on and make sure your wiper blades are in good condition. Slow down and increase your following distance from other cars. Remember that any amount of water could cause you to skid or hydroplane.

2

## **Avoid potholes and puddles that could be covering potholes.**

You may or may not see potholes coming. It's even harder when they're covered by puddles. Keep both hands on the wheel to avoid losing control if you do strike a pothole, and slow down and drive around both potholes and puddles when possible.

3

## **Be prepared for sun glare.**

Spring is known for its bright sunshine that can temporarily blind you when you're driving. Position the sun visor in your car to block the light, wear sunglasses to reduce the sun's intensity, keep your windshield clean, and pull over if you can't see.

4

## **Share the road with construction, bikes, pedestrians, and kids playing.**

Drive slowly in residential areas, stop and give the right of way to pedestrians in crosswalks, slow down and follow signs for new traffic patterns in construction zones, and look for bicycles before you make turns.

5

## **Be on the lookout for deer.**

Be especially careful during dawn and dusk when deer activity is at its highest. Look out for deer crossing signs. These are posted at locations where deer sightings are common. Use high beams at night as long as facing traffic isn't coming.

6

## **Know how spring allergies can affect your driving.**

Before taking allergy medication be sure to read the warning label. If it warns against driving or operating heavy machinery, don't do it. Replace your car's air filters, consider washable car mats instead of cloth ones so you can clean them, and roll up your windows and turn your air conditioner to the recirculation setting.

7

## **Make sure your vehicle is in good working order.**

Follow a schedule for regular maintenance. Check your vehicle's headlights, turn signals and tail lights to make sure they are working correctly. Inspect your car's wipers and tire pressure/tread, test out the air conditioning system, and make sure you have the proper car insurance. Coverage will give you peace of mind should anything happen.

