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## TRAVEL ADVISORY

### Heavy rain means travelers must be alert

*Motorists and bicyclists need to be extra wary when heavy rain hits*

Motorists and bicyclists should be extra alert the next few days with the prospect of heavy rains in the Portland area and the Columbia River Gorge.

Some areas are already soaked by February's storms, so additional rain may bring standing water to roadways and increase the threat of slides. Reduced traction between tires and the road, along with reduced visibility, can make driving less predictable.

ODOT offers these safety reminders:

- **Keep your distance.** A car needs two to three times more stopping distance on wet roads and bicyclists need to beware of slippery roads.
- **Watch out for each other.** Motorists need to know that bicyclists have less traction on wet roads and bicyclists need to recognize that cars can't stop as quickly on wet roads.
- **Be alert for slides** when traveling near steep hills or cliffs.
- **Slow down**, especially through water. Traveling through water at high speed can cause you to lose control; water can stall your engine. And NEVER drive through high water!
- **Give yourself extra time** to get to your destination. Being in a hurry when road conditions are less than ideal can be dangerous.
- **Turn on your headlights** to improve visibility; don't use your cruise control.

**Know Before You Go:** For road conditions and information about traffic incidents, call 5-1-1 or visit [www.TripCheck.com](http://www.TripCheck.com) or [www.TripCheck.com/mobile](http://www.TripCheck.com/mobile) before you head out.

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