

THE BUS STOPS HERE



Safety Newsletter

January 28, 2022



SUFFOLK TRANSPORTATION SERVICE, INC

SUFFOLK BUS CORP.

WINTER WEATHER EDITION

The true winter weather has arrived! It only takes a drop in the temperature to produce black ice and a chance of snow. Professional drivers know how to adjust to winter weather driving conditions.

- High piles of snow reduce visibility. Enter intersections carefully.
- Watch for pedestrians walking in the roadway because sidewalks are not shoveled.
- Be sure all headlights, defrosters and heaters are shut down before turning off your engine.
- Close all windows, doors, and roof hatches before leaving your vehicle.
- Be extra alert when walking in the yard, snow can reduce visibility, not to mention snowplows.
- Buses are targets for snowballs...your driver's side window should remain closed when driving.

DRIVING SAFELY ON ICY ROADS:

1. Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
2. Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
3. Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
4. Keep your lights and windshield clean.
5. Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
6. Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.
7. Do not pass snowplows and sanding trucks. The drivers have limited visibility and you are likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.
8. Do not assume your bus can handle all conditions.

It is important to remember icy road conditions are not the cause of accidents. If it were, all drivers would get into accidents during inclement weather. Driver's behavior is the cause of accidents. Being alert to the road conditions and following the above procedures can save you from an accident.

PRE-TRIP & POST-TRIP: Cold winter weather is no excuse for not conducting a proper pre and post trip. One important reminder is to keep an eye on where you walk as you circle the bus. Black ice may be present around your bus. Watch where you walk and then stop and inspect that section of the bus. Return your eyes to the ground to watch your step and proceed to the next section of the bus.



SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS: The winter weather brings snow and ice. When an employee slips and falls their first reaction is to blame it on the slippery conditions. Many employees navigate the slippery conditions without mishap. They do this by watching where they walk, walk carefully & slowly, and wear proper footwear. They use three points of contact when getting on the bus and getting off the bus holding onto the handrail. Some even get off the bus walking backwards to better navigate. The consequences of not being careful and cautious can result in broken bones and a long recovery. Remember all trips, slips and falls are avoidable.

DECEMBER SAFETY WINNERS: Mark Gutierrez, large bus; Cynthia Jewett, van; Tanisha Dilworth Bryan, DA; Mark Santoro, ADA; Nathaniel Peebles, Shop; Karen Sheehan, management. Congratulations!



FACEBOOK: This week's spotlight is Jessie Prado, van driver for Central Islip out of 1849 Pond Road

“Tough times don't last, tough teams do”