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December 2008

Tips for Foul-Weather Driving

Winter is around the corner, and that means rain, sleet, high winds and perhaps snow and fog. The California Highway Patrol offers these tips for staying safe on the road in bad weather:

- Many crashes are caused by driving too fast for current conditions, so slow down.
- Stay aware of weather and road condition reports through your local media (CommuteSmart.info posts both real-time traffic and weather condition updates).
- Check to see that your windshield wipers are in good condition—and don't forget that the law that requires you to have your headlights on anytime your windshield wipers are on continuously.
- If you encounter fog, again, slow down, and drive with your lights on low beam.

For more tips, go to chp.ca.gov



What's Your Traffic IQ?

How much do you really know about traffic in Southern California? Take Huell Howser's "traffic IQ test" on his rideshare blog at CommuteSmart.info



Holiday News

Free Rides on Metro and OCTA

Rides on Metro Rail and buses will be free Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. (Dec. 25), and New Year's Eve, Dec. 31 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. (Jan. 1). Orange County Transportation Authority will also offer free rides on New Year's Eve. For details, call **1.800.COMMUTE**.

Festival of Lights & Shopping

Riverside Transit Agency express bus to Festival of Lights runs Dec. 6, 13 and 20 for \$4 round-trip, and a free trolley to area shopping centers runs Dec. 13-14 and Dec. 20-21. Call 1.800.800.7821 or go to riversidetransit.com

Transit Charity "Drives"

Several transit agencies have organized toy and canned food drives to help those in need this holiday season, including:

- Antelope Valley Transit Authority's "Stuff a Bus," avta.com
- Metrolink Toy Express, 1.800.371.LINK, metrolinktrains.com
- Norwalk Transit holiday bus, 562.929.5550, ci.norwalk.ca.us
- Omnitrans Spark of Love toy drive, omnitrans.org
- Santa Monica Big Blue Bus food drive, 310.451.5444, bigbluebus.com



For more rideshare news and program information, go to CommuteSmart.info or call **1.800.COMMUTE**