

## Drive Safely on Wet Roads

Drivers can easily lose control of their vehicles when driving on wet roads. Many of the claims reported to Markel involve auto accidents that occurred when drivers lost control or could not stop properly due to wet roads.

Advanced Auto Parts provides the following reasons to drive carefully when operating a vehicle during wet weather conditions:

1. The texture of the pavement can make a major difference in traction. Steel bridge grates, manhole covers, and paint stripes are notoriously slick when wet.
2. Intersections, entry and exit ramps, toll plazas and other high-traffic/low-speed areas collect spilled fluids from vehicles. The first rain creates a slippery road film that is particularly bad in these areas.
3. As speed increases, the grooves in your tires cannot displace water fast enough, and your tires will begin to "float" (hydroplane). Slow down gradually and make gentle steering corrections. Note that worn tires tend to hydroplane more easily.
4. Slow down! Allow longer stopping distances and drive as smoothly as possible. Avoid quick changes in speed and direction.
5. Replace your windshield wipers every season. Make sure a regularly scheduled maintenance program is part of your vehicle management program. It is also recommended that you order Motor Vehicle Records (MVRs) on all drivers prior to hiring and also on all volunteers who may drive your vehicles.

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If you have a safety or risk management question or a suggestion for a topic, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at [safety1st@markelcorp.com](mailto:safety1st@markelcorp.com).