SPRING DRIVING TIPS

Spring in Minnesota means melting snow and icy roads, in addition to hazards such as rain, mist and fog. Use extra caution and consider these safety tips:

- Slow down and increase your following distance when rain or mist begins to fall. Even a small amount of water can mix with oil and grease on the road to create slippery conditions.
- Use your low beam headlights. High beams reflect water vapor (fog) and make it harder to see.
- To keep the inside of your windshield clear of moisture, turn on your fan and defroster; the air conditioner may help, too.
- Avoid driving through large puddles; the splashing water may affect your brakes, cause your car to swerve, and impair the vision of other motorists.
- Watch the road to see if the vehicle ahead is leaving tire tracks, and if it is, follow in those tracks if you can for better traction. If it's not, reduce speed slowly to prevent hydroplaning.
- Watch for icy conditions caused by thawing snow, spring rains or mist, especially in shaded areas, on bridges and on overpasses. Remember that these areas freeze first.
- Keep an eye out for pedestrians, who may be less alert to traffic in the rain and fog, and more difficult for you to see.

Acknowledgments:
National Safety Council