# A screen shot of a computer  Description automatically generatedsevere weather safety talk

Truck drivers face it all when it comes to weather from rain, tornados, snow, ice and high winds. Unfortunately, there are times when drivers have no choice but to drive through the conditions. Therefore, it is important that drivers understand the possibilities and know how to handle each situation.

*Preparation for trip with severe weather potential:*

* Ensure wiper fluid is full
* Clean interior of windshield to prevent fogging
* Watch weather forecasts beforehand; plan to arrive before or after severe weather is coming through the driving path if possible
* Be aware of the condition of the vehicle overall with special attention paid to tires
* Make sure to carry an emergency kit with water, food, weather radio, flashlight, blanket etc.

*Rain/Storm:*

* Slow down to avoid slippery areas on the road
* Give ample room between the car ahead
* During hailstorms pull under cover if possible and wait it out; often hail is short lived
* Turn on headlights to be better visible to others even during daylight hours

*Tornados:*

* When possible leave the highway and go indoors; seek shelter
* Pull over and get low; avoid underpasses that can cause a wind tunnel affect
* Stay alert to patterns of the storm and avoid the path

*Snow/Ice:*

* Slow down; go below the speed limit if necessary, to remain in control
* Keep a safe following distance from cars ahead; if the taillights are in view it may be a sign of following too closely
* Apply breaks slowly and carefully to avoid sliding

*High Winds:*

* Slow down as much as necessary to have good control over the truck
* If winds make it impossible to control the vehicle pull over until it passes
* Keep both hands on the steering wheel and a safe distance from other vehicles

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