



Public Safety

News and Tips

Driving in the New Year



**Call 911
EMERGENCY
IN PROGRESS**

NON-EMERGENCY
Fire (916) 774-5800
Police (916)-774-5000
Extension 1

Police Department
1051 Junction Blvd.
Roseville CA 95678
(916) 774-5000
[www.roseville.ca.us/
police](http://www.roseville.ca.us/police)

Fire Headquarters
401 Oak Street, Fire
Station #1
Roseville, CA 95678
(916) 774-5800
www.roseville.ca.us/fire

**Abandoned Vehicle
Hotline**
(916) 746-1022

**Alarms/Alarm
Permits**
(916) 774-5093

Animal Control
(916)774-5090

**Community Events
& Neighborhood
Watch**
(916) 774-5050

Graffiti Abatement
(916) 746-1021

**Police news &
crime alert emails:**
[www.roseville.ca.us/
enotify](http://www.roseville.ca.us/enotify)

RCONA
(Roseville Coalition of
Neighborhood
Associations)
www.RCONA.org



New Year, New Laws

2014 has arrived and so have some new laws that motorists need to be aware of this year. Here are just a few of them. For a complete list visit the DMV website (www.dmv.ca.gov)

- **Bicycles: Passing Distance (AB 371)**
Known as **the Three Feet for Safety Act**. It requires a **motor vehicle driver passing a bicycle** that is proceeding in the same direction to pass with no less than three feet between any part of the vehicle and any part of the bicycle or driver. When three feet is not possible, the motor vehicle must slow down to a reasonable and prudent speed and only pass when no danger is present to the bicyclist. Failing to do so can incur a fine, regardless of a collision or not. ***This law will take effect September 16, 2014.***
- **Teen Drivers (SB 194)**
This law prohibits a person who is **under 18 years of age from using an electronic wireless communications device to write, send, or read a text-based communication while driving, even if it is equipped with a hands-free device.**
Effective January 1, 2014



Prepare For Wet Weather Driving

The calendar says it's winter, but we haven't had much rain yet this winter. Hopefully, rainy weather will arrive soon. Now is the best time to **make sure you vehicle is ready for the wet weather** ahead. Safety starts before you drive. Your goal is to see and be seen. Here are a few tips from AAA.

- **Check your windshield wipers** - Replace wiper inserts that leave streaks or don't clear the glass in a single swipe.
- **Check out your lights** - Make sure all headlights, taillights, brake lights and turn signals are properly functioning so other drivers will see you during downpours.
- **A clear view** - Keep your windshield and windows clean. It's important to clean the **inside** of your windows at least once a week.

Driving in Wet Weather

Driving risk increases in wet-weather conditions. To maximize your driving safety, be aware of the road conditions, reduce speed appropriately, and be prepared for challenging situations.

- **Avoid using cruise control**
This is a great feature in dry scenarios. However, in wet conditions the chance of losing control of your vehicle increases. To prevent loss of traction, you may need to reduce your speed by lifting off the accelerator, which cannot be done when cruise control is engaged. Avoiding using cruise control will allow you more options to choose from when responding to a potential loss-of-traction situation, thus maximizing your safety.
- **Slow Down and Leave Room**
Slowing down during wet weather driving can be critical to reducing a car's chance of hydroplaning, when the tires rise up on a film of water. With as little as a 1/12 inch of water on the road, tires have to displace a gallon of water per second to keep the rubber meeting the road. Drivers should reduce their speed to correspond to the amount of water on the roadway. At speeds as low as 35 mph, new tires can still lose some contact with the roadway.

Did you Know?

Traction conditions are most dangerous during the first 10 minutes of a heavy downpour as oil and debris first rise up, then wash away.



Remember to reduce chances of hydroplaning:

- Slow down.
- Avoid hard braking or turning sharply.
- Drive in the tracks of the vehicle in front of you.
- Allow ample stopping distance between cars by increasing the following distance of the vehicle in front of you.
- Begin to slow down to stop for intersections, turns, and other traffic early.

Public Safety News & Tips

Put a Freeze on Winter Fire

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths. Some simple steps can prevent most heating-related fires from happening. **Carbon Monoxide poisoning also poses dangers** especially during the winter months. Faulty, incorrectly vented or improperly-used fuel burning appliances such as furnaces, stoves, water heaters and fireplaces can pose hazards to your family. Here are a few heating and carbon monoxide safety tips from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA).

Heating Equipment Safety Tips:

- **Keep** anything that can burn at **least three feet away from heating equipment**, such as the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable heater.
- Only **use heating equipment that has the label** of a recognized testing laboratory.
- **Never** use your **oven for heating**.
- **Have a qualified professional install stationary** space **heating equipment**, water heaters, or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacture’s instructions.
- **Maintain heating equipment and chimneys** by having them cleaned and inspected annually by a qualified professional.
- **Turn portable heaters off** when leaving the room or going to bed.
- For fuel burning **space heaters, always use the proper fuel** as specified by the manufacturer.
- Make sure the **fireplace has** a sturdy **screen to prevent sparks from flying** into the room and burn only dry seasoned wood. Allow ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container, which is kept a safe distance from the home.
- If you **smell gas** in your gas heater, do not attempt to light the appliance.

Call 911 or contact your local gas company.

Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

More than **150 people die** on average **each year** from consumer product-related **carbon monoxide poisoning**. Knowledge and awareness are the keys to protecting your family.

Carbon Monoxide, also known as CO, is often called the “Invisible Killer” because it is a colorless, odorless, poisonous gas. Follow these tips to keep you and your family safe from CO poisoning.

- **Have your home heating system** (including chimney and vents) **inspected** and serviced annually by a trained service technician.
- **Never use portable generators inside** homes or garages. Use generators outside only and far away from the home.
- Never bring a charcoal grill into the house for heating or cooking. **Do not barbeque in the garage.**
- **Never** use a gas range or **oven for heating**.
- **Open the fireplace damper** before lighting a fire and keep it open until the ashes are cool. An open damper may help prevent build-up of poisonous gases inside the home.
- **Install battery-operated CO alarms** or CO alarms with battery backup in your home outside separate sleeping areas.

Know the Symptoms of CO Poisoning

Since **CO is odorless, colorless, and otherwise undetectable** to the human senses, people may not know they are being exposed. Low to moderate levels of **poisoning tend to cause flu like symptoms** (but without the fever). They include headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea, and dizziness.

High levels of CO poisoning results in progressively more severe **symptoms** including **mental confusion, vomiting, loss of muscular coordination, loss of consciousness, and even death.**



Did You Know?*

- Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, accounted for one-third of home heating fires and 81% of home heating fire deaths.



- Placing things that can burn too close to heating equipment or placing heating equipment too close to things that can burn was the leading factor contributing to ignition in fatal home heating fires and accounted for more than half (53%) of home heating deaths.
- Half of all home heating fires occurred in December, January, and February.
- Heating equipment was involved in an estimated 53,600 reported U.S. home structure fires.

*2011 data US Fire Administration



Resources AAA, U.S. Fire Administration, United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, National Fire Protection Association, California DMV

The “Public Safety News & Tips” is published for City of Roseville’s residents by the Community Relations Division of the Roseville Police and Fire Departments. Please send comments or suggestions to pdcommunityservices@roseville.ca.us, (916) 774-5050, or contact Rob Baquera at rbaquera@roseville.ca.us or (916) 774-5057
Vol. 14 Issue 1