CDOT WANTS YOU TO STAY SAFE IN WINTER CONDITIONS

During winter weather conditions, CDOT may implement the Traction Law (Code 15), requiring passenger vehicles to have safe tires for winter driving. If you don’t comply with the law, not only will you be putting yourself and others at a safety risk, but you could also face fines.

Snow Tires Are Best for Winter Driving

STOPPING DISTANCE FROM 60 MPH ON SNOWY PAVEMENT

- **310’** SNOW TIRES
- **668’** ALL-SEASON TIRES
- **800’+** SUMMER TIRES

How to Get Ready

**WHAT THE TRACTION LAW REQUIRES**

- **WHEEL DRIVE**
  - 1/8-inch tread on snow tires
  - 1/8-inch tread on mud and snow (M+S) tires

- **4WD**
  - 1/8-inch tread on all tires

- **ALL VEHICLES**
  - 1/8-inch tread on all tires

**CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT**

- **QUARTER TEST**
  - 1/8-inch tread is the minimum as required by law.
  - Top of Washington’s head must be covered to pass the test.

- **VISIBLE TIRE ICONS**
  - Snow tires have a snowflake icon.
  - Mud and snow tires have the “M+S” written on them.

**AutoSock**

Approved across the US
www.AutoSock.us

- Less weight than chains
- No damage to vehicle
- No climbing under vehicles to grab broken chains
- Great for low wheel clearance vehicles

If You're Unprepared, You'll Face Fines

**CONSEQUENCES FOR NOT COMPLYING**

- **$133 FINE** For driving without accepted tires or traction devices* & Tire chains or AutoSocks
- **$657 FINE** For blocking traffic without the accepted tires or traction devices*

INVEST IN SAFETY

If you need new tires, visit winter.codot.gov/tires to find a CDOT tire partner near you. Tire partners are offering discounts on new tires purchased throughout the winter.

HOW YOU’LL KNOW

Highway sleuths will alert motorists to an active Traction Law. You can also check CDOT’s GoWithMe service to receive an email and/or text alert about 10-minute traffic updates. To sign up for GoWithMe, visit GoWithMe.co.

CDOT
COLORADO Traction Law
For Passenger Vehicles – Code 15

OPERATION TIRESAFE
## Colorado Traction and Chain Law Tire Requirements

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Typical Road Conditions</strong></td>
<td>Dry or Wet; Warm, Cool, or Cold</td>
<td>Frozen Precipitation Collecting on Road</td>
<td>Partially Snow Covered</td>
<td>Snow Covered, Icy</td>
<td>Deep Snow and Ice</td>
<td>Unsafe</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Single-Drive-Axle Commercial Vehicles</strong></td>
<td>Safe Tire Tread — Adequate Tread Depth</td>
<td>Adequate traction for conditions</td>
<td>Chains or ATDs</td>
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<td>Chains or ATDs</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Double-Drive-Axle Commercial Vehicles</strong></td>
<td>Safe Tire Tread — Adequate Tread Depth</td>
<td>Adequate traction for conditions</td>
<td>Chains or ATDs</td>
<td>Chains or ATDs</td>
<td>Chains or ATDs</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2WD Passenger Vehicles</strong></td>
<td>Safe Tire Tread — Adequate Tread Depth</td>
<td>M &amp; S Tires or Snow Tires with adequate tread depth, or Chains, or ATDs</td>
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<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4WD or AWD Passenger Vehicles</strong></td>
<td>Safe Tire Tread — Adequate Tread Depth</td>
<td>All 4 wheels engaged and tires with adequate tread depth, or Chains, or ATDs</td>
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## Penalties and Fines

Colorado Law outlines the fines that can be levied against motorists in violation of the Chain Law, as follows:

- **Passenger Vehicles:**
  - $100+$33 surcharge for violation
  - $500+$157 surcharge for incident that blocks traffic

- **Commercial Vehicles:**
  - $50+$16 surcharge for not carrying chains
  - $500+$75 surcharge for violation when chain law in effect
  - $1000+$157 surcharge for incident that blocks traffic

## Code Definitions from Rules

1.01 "Adequate Tires" shall mean tires with conventional tread with a minimum tread depth of 1/8 inch.

1.05 "Code 16" shall mean an implementation of the chain law which restricts all motor vehicles from travel on the state highway unless the vehicle has snow tires or is equipped with tire chains or ATD's or is a four wheel drive vehicle with adequate tires and all four wheels engaged.

3.05 Chain Law Code 15. Chain Law Code 15 may be implemented any time Chain Law Code 18 is in effect and any motor vehicle, other than a CV, is experiencing traction difficulties on an ascending grade. Chain Law Code 15 may also be implemented on any other road, any time traction difficulties are occurring with any vehicle.

1.06 "Code 16" shall mean an implementation of the chain law which requires the use of chains or ATD's by all vehicles. Under this code, autotransports shall be restricted from travel unless able to use chains or ATD's.

3.04 Chain Law Code 16. Chain Law Code 16 may be implemented any time Chain Law Code 15 is in effect and any motor vehicles are experiencing traction difficulties.

1.07 "Code 17" shall mean an implementation of the chain law that requires all single drive axle CV's in combination meeting the definition 8(a) below be equipped with tire chains or ATD's. All other CV's shall be required to be equipped with tire chains, ATD's or snow tires.

3.03 Chain Law Code 17. Chain Law Code 17 may be implemented any time there is snow cover on any part of the traveled portion of the pavement on an ascending grade.

1.06 "Code 16" shall mean an implementation of the chain law that requires all CV's be equipped with tire chains or ATD's.

3.02 Chain Law Code 18. Chain Law Code 16 may be implemented any time there is snow cover on the entire part of the traveled portion of the pavement on an ascending grade or when in the discretion of the maintenance supervisor or designee, road, weather or driving conditions indicate the restriction is necessary to protect the safety of the travelling public or minimize the occurrence of road closures.

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**AutoSock Fact Sheet**

- **Available for commercial trucks & passenger vehicles!**
- **Fast install**
- **Less weight**
- **Great for low clearance**

www.AutoSock.us

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*This Chain Law Fact Sheet is for reference only. See COPDN Rule 2CSR 651-14 Rules Regarding Travel Restrictions on State Highways for complete details. Special provisions exist for autotransport carriers, emergency vehicles, low trucks, and single axle maintenance vehicles. Tire cables are also an acceptable traction device. Additional chain application requirements for trucks and buses are described.*

11/30/2015