

# City of Saint Paul Labor Management Safety Committee

November 24, 2010

## *Winter Driving – Managing Skids*

You're driving down IH35 and notice some icy patches on the road. "No big deal" you think. "The road is dry, right? I'm only doing 45 mph. I've got this under control."

Then your car starts to skid because you hit some black ice. "Okay – now what?"



Hopefully, not this scene!

To reduce the risk of a skid adjust your speed to the conditions – regardless of what the speed limit is and increase your following distance.

If you do begin to skid, remain calm, ease your foot off the gas, and turn the wheel in the direction you want the car to go. Try to head towards an empty lane or a ditch rather than hit someone. Put both hands on the wheel and hold firmly.

Never PUMP Anti-Lock brakes – apply steady, but firm pressure to the brake pedal.

If you can see that you are going to be hit, especially from behind, try to decrease your speed and move your head to the head rest.

*Remember: Safety is No Accident!*  
*Information courtesy of the Minnesota Safety Council*