

Driving over the river and through the woods? Watch for deer.



Holiday season means traveling more for get-togethers with family and friends. When going over the river and through the woods; be aware of the risks of crashes with deer. While motor vehicle-deer collisions can happen year-round, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, November is the month with the highest risk, with December not far behind.

The Department of Transportation offers the following tips to help avoid motor vehicle-deer collisions:

- **Be aware of posted deer crossing signs** which are placed in active deer crossing areas.
- **Slow down and prepare to stop** as soon as you see a deer. Also, slow down if other drivers are slowing down or braking, which may indicate the presence of deer.
- **Deer frequently travel in groups**, so if you see one, watch for more.
- Deer are nocturnal and often travel at dawn and at dusk. Many motor vehicle-deer crashes occur between **6 p.m. and midnight**.
- When driving at night, watch for reflections from your headlights. Deer eyes may reflect the light, and spotting the reflection could give you more time to react. Use your bright lights when no traffic is approaching.
- Distraction such cell phones and eating can cause drivers to miss seeing a deer until its too late.
- If you hit a deer, call 911.

**MATERIALS PROVIDED, NEED FOR REVIEW BY COUNSEL AND OTHERS,
APPLICABILITY AND SUITABILITY OF RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Attached are risk management related recommendations we believe may be of interest to you. Provision of these materials by our organization (set forth in section one above and referred to as “us”, “our”, or “we”) does not constitute a representation of the appropriateness, adequacy or effectiveness of the recommendations.

These materials are provided as recommendations only. They address certain important Risk Management matters. They are not suggested or intended to provide for all circumstances or all considerations. Each situation is different in some respects, and the advice of counsel and, in many cases, other professionals, is required to prepare and implement an effective and lawful risk management related program, document or agreement. It is the responsibility of the local government to determine the suitability and applicability of these and other risk management materials to its particular needs and circumstances.