



Topic: Hydroplaning

In all sorts of rain, you can help prevent skids by driving slowly and carefully, especially on curves. If the car starts skidding, stay calm, ease your foot off the gas, and steer in the direction you want the front of the car to go.

Hydroplaning happens when the water in front of your tires builds up faster than your car can push it away. The water pressure causes your car to rise and slide on a thin layer of water between the tires and the road. You are in danger of skidding or drifting out of your lane.

Ease off the gas until your car slows and you can feel the road again. Brake gently with light pumping. If your car has antilock brakes, continuously and firmly push the brake pedal.

- ✚ To avoid hydroplaning, experts for *State Farm Insurance* recommend:
- ✚ Keep good tread on your tires and replace them when necessary.
- ✚ Steer away from large puddles.
- ✚ Try to drive in the tire tracks left by cars in front of you.
- ✚ Adjust your speed to wet road conditions in time to avoid hydroplaning.



Better way to hold the wheel

Positioning your hands on the steering wheel correctly will keep your arms out of the way if the air bag deploys in a collision. Instructors for the AAA recommend holding the wheel with hands at 8:00 o'clock and 4:00 o'clock position.