



## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



### Fall Season Driving Hazards Safety Message

There is a wide array of factors that can contribute to a motor vehicle crash. Each season of the year will bring unique hazards for drivers. The transition from summer to fall is no exception. This safety talk will look at a few unique hazards for drivers in the fall season. Four Fall Driving Hazards and Applicable Safety Tips

1. Leaves on the roadway. When the leaves change colors and begin to fall, it can create a driving hazard that is not present during the rest of the year. Wet leaves can be as slick as an icy road. Drivers need to adjust their speed and driving behaviors accordingly.

**Safety tip: Do not brake hard or take sharp turns when driving in an area with leaves present on the road. Take the same caution as you would if you were driving in wintery conditions.**

2. Children are back in school. Most children go back to school in late August or early September. With school back in session, more traffic, pedestrians, and school buses will be present on the roadways in many areas.

**Safety tip: Slow down and maintain additional awareness if you travel a route where school children are walking or waiting for a bus. Never pass a bus that is in stopped in front of you and always stop for school bus stop signs.**

3. More deer movement. The fall season also means it is the mating season of whitetail deer and many other antlered animals. Due to the mating season taking place during this time of the year, you will see more deer than you normally do. The deer will often be active during different times of the day than they normally are and will travel to new areas.

4. Frost and icy conditions. In many areas of the country, the beginning of fall will bring cold enough temperatures to have frost and icy conditions on the road.

#### Discussion points:

1. What are other hazards that are present when driving during the fall season?
2. What are actions to take to mitigate these other hazards?