



Press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Snowmobile Safety Tips

Gatineau, January 21, 2025 - The Sûreté du Québec wishes to remind you that it will be present on snowmobile trails to ensure the safety of users and compliance with the laws in force to ensure the safety of snowmobilers and compliance with current legislation.

The purpose of this police presence is to encourage snowmobilers to behave responsibly and safely. Interventions will be carried out on the trails and at crossings of public roads to snowmobilers whose behaviour compromises the safety of other users. Special particular attention will be paid to driving ability impaired by alcohol, drugs or a combination of both speed limits and failure to obey mandatory stop signs at crossings of trails and public roads.

Snowmobile safety tips

- Avoid riding alone, and always tell someone close to you about your planned itinerary;
- Before setting off, plan your trip and check the snowmobile network;
- Respect the signs and adjust your speed according to trail conditions;
- Maintain a safe distance between your vehicle and the one in front;
- Keep your vehicle's white headlight(s) on, as well as the red rear marker light.
- Cross public roads where authorized by signs;
- Keep to the right at all times;
- Always wear your helmet and safety glasses if your helmet does not have a visor;

- Respect private property by ensuring you have the owner's permission to ride on it or stay on the trails.
- Stay on marked trails and avoid bodies of water: the state of the ice in certain places can pose a significant risk to those venturing off the trails.

Recurring offences and risky behaviours are :

- Not wearing an helmet;
- Impaired driving due to alcohol, drugs or a combination of both;
- Respecting mandatory stops and signs;
- Speeding;
- Not holding a trail access card.

Impaired driving ability due to alcohol, drugs or a combination of both, and speeding are the main of fatal snowmobile collisions. Think about it!

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