

# BLM 4X4 Safe Driving

## Pre-trip Inspection:

- Owner's manual
- Tires
- Lights
- Undercarriage
- Oil
- Antifreeze
- Other fluids

## Pre-trip Inspection:

- Windows
- Wipers
- Mirrors
- Heater/Defroster
- BLM Radio check
- Seat position
- Seatbelts

## Equipment:

- First aid kit
- Highway reflectors
- Tow/Recovery strap
- Shackles/Transit cluster
- Shovel

## Equipment:

- Tire chains
- Gloves
- Winch accessories
- Pullies
- Tarp

## Vehicle:

**Seatbelts:** Policy requires that every driver and passenger will wear a seatbelt at all times.

**Stability:** 4X4 vehicles usually sit higher and are heavier than conventional vehicles. Be aware of the ability to stop, start, and steer your vehicle. Do not overcorrect steering. If your vehicle drops into a ditch, steer straight until the vehicle slows or stops and then safely return to the road.

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## Dry Terrain:

**Hills:** Never turn around on a hill. If you cannot climb the hill, back the vehicle down and find an alternate route.

**Rocks:** Walk the route first. Plan the placement of front and back tires to maximize clearance and avoid damage to the undercarriage or undercarriage wiring.

**Sand:** Never air down your tires unless you have the means to return them to proper pressure for the trip home.

## Wet Terrain:

**Snow:** Always carry tire chains fitted for the specific vehicle you will drive. Always consider returning another day if conditions worsen.

**Mud:** Be cautious of mud ruts that can abruptly change the direction of the vehicle.

**Water:** Never cross water unless you know the depth and stability of the creek bed. Bodies of water deeper than the center of the wheel hub should not be crossed. Find an alternate route.

## Recovery tips:

**Straps/chains/cables/shackles:** Check ratings to ensure adequate strength. Never use damaged devices. Never step across a strap, cable, or chain under tension.

**With other vehicle:** Agree on hand and audible signals.

**With winch:** Follow owner's manual for winch being used.