

On Our Way into Autumn!

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THINK AHEAD

If you drink, you can't drive.

There are any number of reasons to have a drink. That's why **before you drink**:

- designate a driver who will stay sober to take you home;
- plan to stay overnight at your host's home;
- ensure that you have money on hand to take a taxi or public transit home;
- or call on the services of an impaired driver escort.

Prevent the worst.



Are the days of your vehicle numbered?

Donate your car to The Kidney Foundation of Canada's **Kidney-Car** Program.

To find the Kidney-Car number for your region:

- call **1 888 228-8673**;
- or
- go to www.kidneyquebec.ca



Advance signalling, a new safety measure

From now on, motorists must be prepared to stop when approaching a school

bus whose driver has signalled the intention to stop.

The purpose of the measure is to slow traffic in front and behind a school bus, so as to avoid sudden braking or acceleration.

From now on

1. Prepare to stop

in the presence of a school bus:

- with its amber lights flashing;
- or
- with its hazard lights flashing.

2. Stop your vehicle at least five metres from a school bus

in the presence of a school bus:

- with its red lights flashing;
- and
- its stop arm extended.



SPEEDING can slow you down permanently



Listen up

What does this sign mean?

- No entry. You are about to enter a one-way street or a highway lane.
- This sign is intended solely for the drivers of heavy vehicles.
- Reduce speed. Danger.

ANSWER: No entry. You are about to enter a one-way street or a highway lane.

For more on road signs and traffic signals: www.mtq.gouv.qc.ca/en

Patience and courtesy behind the wheel

On the road, do you have a tendency to:

- Use the road shoulder to pass another vehicle in a bottleneck?
- Follow a vehicle close behind?
- Change lanes suddenly without signalling?
- Zigzag between vehicles?

Ever think that such driving habits can be irritating to other motorists?

Put luck on your side

- Avoid driving when you feel tired or stressed.
- Listen to soothing music, if this calms you.
- Keep to the right lane, except when passing.
- Plan your trips better.

Simple suggestions to avoid overstressing other drivers' patience.

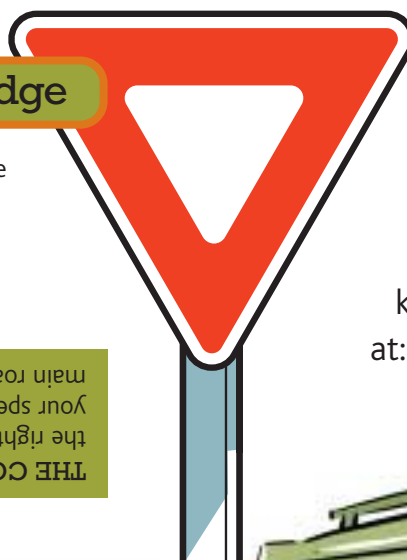


Check your driving knowledge

This sign in the shape of a downward pointing triangle is used to indicate:

- The presence of a slow-moving vehicle.
- That motorists must yield the right of way.
- That motorists must proceed straight ahead.

THE CORRECT ANSWER IS: That motorists must yield the right of way. This panel indicates that you must adjust your speed to yield the right of way to vehicles on the main roadway.



Whether you are an **experienced** or **novice driver**, test your driving knowledge by taking the quiz at: www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en

Engine size matters

Vehicles from model years 1995 onward equipped with a motor that has a cylinder displacement of 4 litres or more become subject to an additional registration fee. This affects:

- passenger vehicles;
- commercial vehicles;
- motor homes.

Vehicles adapted for transporting a wheelchair-bound person are exempt from the additional fee.

This measure in the 2004-2005 Québec government budget is intended to favour the reduction of tailpipe emissions that pollute and contribute to greenhouse gases.

To find out more, go to: www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en/vehicle_registration/cylindersize.html



Anywhere in the world

Whether you're a **driver, passenger, pedestrian, cyclist, moped rider** or **motorcyclist**, do you know that you are covered if you're injured in a traffic accident anywhere in the world?

Thanks to the protection **Québec's public automobile insurance plan** provides, all Quebecers are insured, regardless of fault.

Who handles compensation?

If you are injured, it is the SAAQ.

If the vehicle is damaged, it is your private insurance company.

To find out more about Québec's public automobile insurance plan, go to: www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en/



Did you know that...?



If you experience car trouble



If, while on the road, your automobile breaks down:

- steer your vehicle onto the shoulder as far away from the roadway as possible;
- put on your hazard signals;
- remain in the vehicle until help comes.

If there is a risk of collision:

- get out of your vehicle;
- lift the hood;
- go to a safe location.

In the Fall, Exercise Caution!



In the fall, if you're out walking in the evening or when the weather is overcast, wear light-coloured clothing or reflective bands.



If it starts raining while you are driving, you must:

- Activate the hazard lights and increase speed to get out of the rainfall area more quickly.
- Turn on the headlights for improved visibility.
- Reduce speed slowly, as the road surface may be made slippery by the water.

ANSWER: Reduce speed slowly, as the road surface may be made slippery by the water. Water mixed with dust, oil and other matter accumulated on the roadway creates a mixture that makes pavement slippery. You should therefore allow for a longer braking distance.

Beware!

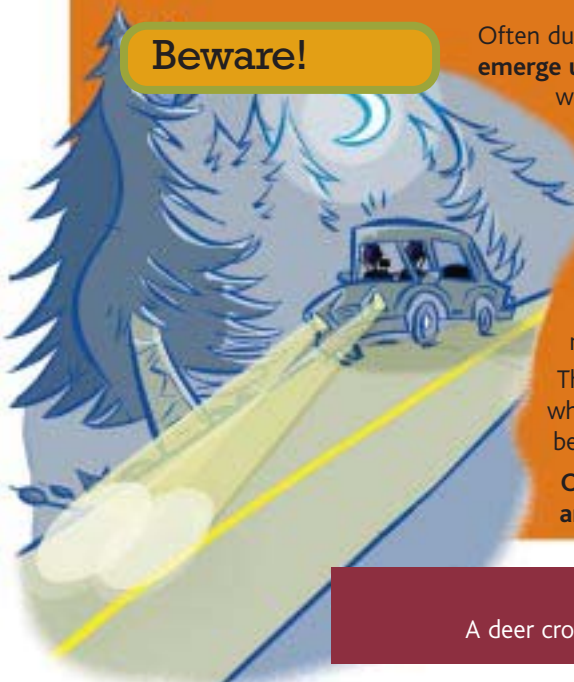
Often during the fall, in wooded areas, **wild animals will emerge unexpectedly onto the road.** These encounters, which occur most often in the morning or at night, can lead to serious accidents.

If animals are on the road:

- slow down and brake several times to attract the attention of other motorists behind you;
- beep your horn to startle the animal off the road and into the distance.

The reliability of some gadgets such as deer whistles is questionable; they have not yet been proven to work.

Obey the speed limit at all times and stay alert.



REMEMBER

A deer crossing a highway is usually not alone.

TO CONTACT US

Call Centres

Monday through Friday

General information: from 8 am to 5:30 pm

Accident victims' compensation: 8:30 am to 5 pm

Automated telephone response

(toll free)

Monday through Saturday, from 7:30 to 11 pm

Sunday, from noon to 11 pm

- Make, change, check or cancel an appointment for a driving test – knowledge or road test;
- Cancel your driver's licence;
- Notify us of storage of your vehicle;
- Order a copy of your driving record;
- Find out the location and business hours of SAAQ service outlets

(514) 873-7620 in Montréal;

(418) 643-7620 in Québec (city and vicinity);

or

1-800-361-7620, toll free from elsewhere

in Québec, Canada and USA.

Automated telephone response

24 hours, 7 days a week

- Check an individual's right to register a vehicle before its sale or purchase is completed;
- check that a prospective driver's licence is valid before lending or renting your vehicle.

One number: 1 900 565-1212 (\$1.50 per call)

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E-mail any comments to us at: courrier@saaq.gouv.qc.ca

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Société de l'assurance
automobile

Québec



HAVE YOU MISSED AN ISSUE?

The *info SAAQ* newsletter is published quarterly. The latest issue is enclosed when you receive a payment notice to renew the following:

- driver's licence;
- vehicle registration.

To consult the **electronic editions** of all issues in PDF, go to:

www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en/infosaaq

Read on!

SAAQ clic
Online Services

QUICK 'N' EASY!

Go to www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca/en to conduct these operations online:

- Have your **change of address** recorded
- Make, change, check or cancel an **appointment for a driving test – knowledge or road test**
- **Pay for renewal** (if you are a member of the Caisses Desjardins or a client of the National Bank of Canada) of your:
 - driver's licence
 - vehicle registration
 - disabled parking permit
- Check the **validity of a driver's licence**
- Check if a **vehicle can be licensed**
- Order a **copy of your driving record**
- Notify us of **storage of your vehicle**
- Have your **vehicle removed from storage** and licensed for road use
- Notify us of **vehicle discarding**

These services are available online:

Monday through Saturday, from 7 am to 11 pm and Sunday, from noon to 11 pm

