

Beautiful nature



Photo courtesy of Thomas Metcalf

Green County features some beautiful sights, especially early morning views. Thomas Metcalf and Tom Downey experienced this view early Friday morning while beaver trapping in some local Green County wetlands off of Highway 68. Furbearer trapping season is open from mid-November to the end of February. Beavers are classified as furbearing animals in the state of Kentucky. An open trapping season is established for the legal harvesting of these animals, and they are subject to all applicable state laws and regulations. For more information, Consult the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife's trapping digest on removal of beavers during the legal trapping season. Note, it is against the law in Kentucky to destroy or harm a beaver lodge or den.

Driving in snow

BY SHANNON HALL
COURIER JOURNAL

Obviously, the best way to spend a snowy day is cuddled up in a blanket with hot chocolate. But if you're feeling cooped up and need to go somewhere, here are some tips for driving in the snow.

Is your car winter ready?

Well, that means you have a safe tire tread and the right amount of air pressure, plus a full tank of gas. Maybe throw together a supply kit, too. It should include:

First-aid kit, Shovel, Ice scraper, Flashlight, Batteries, Sand or cat litter, Candles, Matches, Water, Snacks.

Do this before it's cold!

On the street: Louisville's cold snap worries city, homeless advocates: 'It's going to be a challenge'

Do I need to wipe off all the snow?

Do you need to? No. Should you? Of course. Clean windows, clean headlights and a car clear of snow can be safer for your vehicle and those around you.

Best driving tip for the snow?

Be safe and use good common sense. Stay aware of your surroundings and keep your eyes moving.

Thomas Koerner, who's been a driver with UPS for 23 years, says if you keep your eyes moving, you don't have to react at the last minute.

Just because you're aware doesn't mean everyone else is; leave plenty of space between you and other cars.

Keeping an "escape route," or space on all four sides of the vehicle, is another good way of driving defensively, Koerner said.

Biggest mistake?

Slamming on your brakes. Don't do it. Apply gradual pressure instead.

What if I start to slide?

Turn your wheel in the direction the car is sliding. Yes, it feels unnatural, but trust us, it works. Stay calm, take your foot off the gas and carefully steer where you want the front of your vehicle to go.

What if I crash?

Don't think so negative. But if it happens,

check for injuries. If you're OK, move your car to the road's shoulder if possible. Then call the police and exchange info with the other driver.

Am I ready to go out in the snow?

Yep, just remember: If you need to go slow because of the weather, it's OK. Better safe than sorry. Don't use cruise control and take your time getting to your destination.

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