

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

"Defensive Driving" is a concept developed by professional drivers. It includes a system for driving and dealing with the problems that can come up while driving. And it refers to an attitude.

When you drive for us, you have a responsibility to us, to passengers and all the other drivers or pedestrians on the road, to your family, and to yourself – you are to do all that you reasonably can to avoid being involved in an accident or causing others on the roads to be involved in an accident. Do everything you reasonably can, and don't leave anything to chance. What you need to do to drive defensively can be described very simply.

- Constantly search the traffic scene all around you; be alert for hazards when they appear and aware of developing traffic situations as far ahead as possible.
- When you recognize elements of a possible accident situation somewhere around you, think of the actions you could take to be sure your vehicle does not become involved. Decide on the right action immediately.
- Take that action as soon as possible – don't wait to see what may happen. It may happen faster than you think. You may react more slowly than you intend.

You drive defensively

- by knowing and observing applicable traffic rules, and being alert for the errors or illegal acts of others;
- by adjusting your driving to the mechanical condition of your vehicle, condition of the road surface, weather conditions, light conditions, traffic conditions, your own physical condition and state of mind;
- by being aware of what others are doing and being alert to the hazards their actions might create;
- by yielding the right of way – even when you may legally have the right of way. Be willing to yield to others whenever that will help to avoid an accident. "Right of way" is a right you have only when someone else gives it to you.

Remember "defensive driving" every time you're in your vehicle, and *all* the time you're in your vehicle. It's the mark of a professional.