

LNE & EM Route Safety Hour

Driving in Heavy rain

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Fact.....?

Driving in heavy rain and flooding can be hazardous. Breakdown numbers always increase during periods of wet weather, as the damp causes problems with engines and electrical systems, particularly in older vehicles. If you must drive, there are a handful of steps you can take to reduce your chances of an accident or breakdown dramatically. Here are some useful hints and tips to help you prepare for wet weather.

The following tips should always be followed for driving in flooded conditions:

- Do not attempt to drive through water if you are unsure of the depth – the edge of the kerb is a good indicator
- If you do go through water, drive on the highest section of the road
- Select a low gear and drive slowly and keep moving to prevent water entering the exhaust outlet.
- Drive a safe distance from the vehicle in front
- If your engine cuts out after driving through deep water, do not attempt to restart as engine damage may occur – instead call for assistance and have the vehicle professionally examined.
- Once you have exited the flood water test the brakes of the vehicle.



Safety conversation prompts?

- What should you do when you are driving and you are unsure of the depth of the flood water?
- What would happen if water is sucked into the engine?
- What other risks do you consider when driving in flood water?