



# CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

11-222

**Date:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011  
**District:** 8 - Riverside and San Bernardino Counties  
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## TIPS FOR DRIVING IN HIGH WINDS

**Inland Empire** – A high wind event is expected to begin in the Inland Empire this afternoon through Friday evening, November 30 to December 2. Winds in excess of 80 miles per hour are forecasted and Caltrans wants to make sure motorists and truckers are prepared. Snow is also expected in higher elevations, possibly on I-15. Bring chains if you travel to the mountains.

- First – know before you go! Check IE511.org or call “511” from the Inland Empire. You may also go Caltrans website to check for road conditions and closures at <http://www.dot.ca.gov/cgi-bin/roads.cgi> or the California Highway Patrol (CHP) website at <http://cad.chp.ca.gov/>.
- Be aware of other vehicles and slow down or move over when approaching RVs, campers, trucks, buses, or trailers being towed.
- Reduce the speed of your car to minimize the wind’s affect on your vehicle. Make sure you have BOTH hands on the steering wheel. Exit the freeway/roadway if you feel unsafe. Try not to park on the shoulder – find a safe location to park until winds subside.
- High profile vehicles are not recommended to travel during high wind events. *This includes unloaded trucks and trailers.* Watch for travel advisories on the Caltrans overhead/roadside signs.
- Make sure your load is TIED DOWN! Ladders, construction equipment, and other items being hauled can be deadly to motorists.
- Watch for blowing debris or fallen trees/branches on the highway – reduce your speed and be extremely cautious. If you encounter fallen electrical wires – **DO NOT** exit your vehicle.
- Be advised that roads may close in the event of emergency, sand storms, accidents, etc. Again, know before you go!
- Listen to the radio or watch local news on TV before you travel for road conditions.

Source: [http://www.ehow.com/how\\_2073728\\_drive-high-winds.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_2073728_drive-high-winds.html)

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