



# FACT SHEET #11

**THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE**

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## Snowmobiling Safety

Snowmobiling is a growing recreational activity. In 2000, Transport Canada reported more than 700,000 registered snowmobiles in Canada and over 161,000 kilometres of snowmobile trails, many of which are on farmland.

### Before you set out:

- Inspect your snowmobile for mechanical integrity.
- Wear suitable clothing to prevent hypothermia – remember that children are particularly susceptible to the cold.
- Inform others of your destination and estimated arrival time.
- Carry first aid and survival kits.
- If applicable, check for local avalanche conditions at [www.avalanche.ca/](http://www.avalanche.ca/).

### On the trail:

- Drive within your capabilities.
- Use snowmobile trails whenever and wherever practical.
- Stay on the right side of the trail.
- Reduce speed in unfamiliar territory.
- Exercise care to **look** for on-coming traffic when crossing roadways and railway tracks as you will not be able to hear other vehicles over the sound of your snowmobile.

### At night:

- Slow down! Your headlight limits how far ahead you can see. The slower you are traveling, the less distance you need to stop.
- Avoid driving along road shoulders where lights from either snowmobiles or vehicles can cause confusion.

### Over lakes and rivers:

- Be aware of ice conditions and, if in doubt, check with local authorities or your local snowmobile club.
- Wear flotation-type clothing.

### NEVER:

- Never drive a snowmobile if you are impaired by alcohol or drugs.
- Never drive on railway tracks.
- Never leave children unsupervised with “kiddie” snowmobiles.
- Never leave young children alone in cutters.
- Never travel with babies.

The Canadian Federation of Agriculture along with Farm Credit Canada, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada want to encourage farmers and snowmobile operators to work together to make safety a priority. *Farm Safety Means Farm Safety*

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### For more information call:

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