

Are you ReadyPA?

TIP SHEET



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
STATE COLLEGE, PA



#SnowSquallSafetyPA



SNOW SQUALLS



WHAT ARE THEY?

- Intense short-lived moderate to heavy snowfall bursts
- Quick reduction in visibility and whiteout conditions from gusty winds
- Associated with strong cold fronts which bring Arctic air during winter



WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS?

- Rapidly deteriorating conditions can cause roads to become icy and slick in a matter of minutes; "Flash Freeze"
- Often lead to chain-reaction accidents and treacherous travel

SAFETY:

- There is no safe place on a highway during a snow squall event
- Consider an alternate route or delaying travel, reduce speed and turn on headlights
- **STAY ALERT AND WEATHER AWARE!**



THERE IS NO SAFE PLACE ON A HIGHWAY DURING A SNOW SQUALL



What is a snow squall?

- A brief but intense period of heavy snow, strong winds, and whiteout conditions.
- Can cause roads to become icy.

What is a snow squall warning?

- Issued for areas that will be impacted by snow squalls.
- Will trigger an alert on your cell phone.

penndot.gov/winter

weather.gov/safety/winter-snow-squall

If a snow squall warning is issued, what should I do?

Avoid or delay motor travel until the squall passes through your location.



What if I am already traveling?

Safely exit the road at the next opportunity.



What if I cannot exit the road in time?

- Slow down gradually.
- Turn on your headlights and hazard lights.
- Stay in your lane.
- Increase your following distance.
- **Avoid** slamming on your brakes.



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