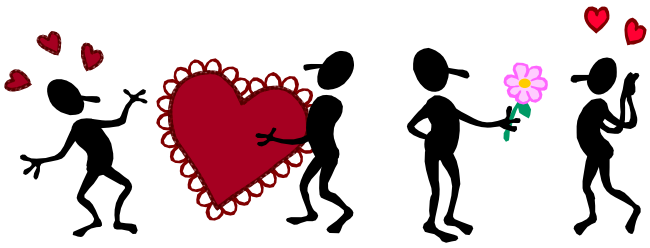
# Tow Bulletin

## February, 2010



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***PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS INFORMATION TO ALL CONTRACT TOW EMPLOYEES***

## This Month . . .

**Presidents' Day**
**Monday, February 15th**
(Gate Fee applies all day)
No Tow Board mtg

**Next month -**
**3/17** Tow Board 1:30 p.m. in the 8th floor conference room of 111 SW Columbia St – Approval of bid materials for AB Tow Contract and discussion of first draft
**3/22** Release of AB Tow Contract bid applications to interested parties

## Two Tips for Driving in the Rain…

One thing you should do and one that you should NOT do for *optimal* visibility and safety in a downpour.

**Here's the DO item:** Although no one seems to know why it's so effective, try this trick when the rain is crashing down. (The source of this information swears it works even when driving at night.)

On those occasions when even the fastest wiper speed can't keep your windshield clear enough, try wearing your *sunglasses* (any model will do). Almost miraculously, visibility in front of your windshield will clear! Try it yourself and share it with friends. You still see drops on the windshield, but not the blinding sheets of rain. This also works when passing trucks or other vehicles kick up spray from the pavement.

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**And now for the DON'T advice:** A young woman had an accident and totaled her car. It was raining, though not excessively. Suddenly, her car began to hydro-plane and literally flew through the air. She was not seriously injured but very stunned at the sudden loss of control. When she explained to the highway patrolman what had happened, he told her something that every driver should know –

***Never use "cruise control" when driving on wet or icy pavement!***

She thought she was being prudent by setting the cruise control and maintaining a consistent speed in the rain. But the highway patrolman told her that if the cruise control is on when your car begins to hydro-plane, causing your tires to lose contact with the pavement, your car will accelerate to a higher rate of speed making you take off like an airplane~ exactly what had occurred. ***Some models (like the Toyota Sienna Limited XLE) won't allow you to set the cruise control when the windshield wipers are on…***

Presidents' Day
February 15th



**January Response Times . . .** Out of 1,613 tows in January:
**21 to 30 minutes –** 68 tows (Up from **44**)
**31 + minutes –** 26 tows (Up from **18** )
**Failures to Respond:** 4 tows (Up from 2)

**Less than 5%:**

| | |
|---|---|
| 21st Century D7 | Retriever |
| 21st Century D4 | Safeguard |
| 21st Century D5 | Sam's |
| A&B D2 | Security |
| A&B D8 | Sergeants D3 |
| Beaver | Speed's D5 |
| Buck/9T9 | Speed's D8 |

**5 to 9.9% :**

| | |
|---|---|
| A&B D7 | Loop Hwy |
| Crown | Oregon |
| Newhouse D8 | Sergeant's D8 |

**10% or more**

| | |
|---|---|
| Gerlock | Newhouse D5 |
| Handy Andy's | Northwestern |
| Newhouse D4 | |

**100% Response . . .**

**21st Century D4** 68 requests
**21st Century D5** 43 requests
**21st Century D7** 68 requests
**A & B D2** 121 requests
**Beaver** 52 requests
**Gerlock** 3 requests
**Handy Andy's** 35 requests
**Northwestern** 46 requests
**Sam's** 62 requests
**Security** 113 requests
**Sergeant's D3** 42 requests
**Sergeant's D8** 70 requests

**In addition, the following companies passed only 1 tow in January:**

**Crown** 46 requests
**Loop Hwy** 51 requests
**Newhouse D5** 47 requests

The overall pass percentage for December was 2.16%...

**January All-Stars. . .** Companies with no passes and less than 5% late responses:

| | |
|---|---|
| 21st Century D7 | Beaver |
| 21st Century D4 | Sam's |
| 21st Century D5 | Security |
| A&B D2 | Sergeant's D3 |

**Next Contract Workshop . . .**

1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, February 25, 2010
Room 600, Rivers Conf room
111 SW Columbia Street

Register by Tuesday, February 23rd to be sure of a seat. Class starts by 1:35 so be on time! ***Late-comers may be turned away…***

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## Happy 151st Birthday, Oregon!
## February 14, 1859

(Did you know that Oregon has the only state flag with different pictures on each side?)