

"Driving and Vehicle Maintenance in Heavy Ash"

The following advice is provided by the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

- (1) Avoid driving in heavy ash conditions unless absolutely required. The more dense the ash, the more urgent the requirement should be for driving.
- (2) When required to drive in dense ash, keep speed down to 35 mph or lower. Do not follow too close to the car ahead of you. Use headlights on low beam.
- (3) Change oil often. Lubricate all chassis components at each oil change.
- (4) Clean or replace air filters often. Wrapping air cleaner element with a silk stocking or cheese cloth is of questionable value. It will not improve air cleaner filtration and may actually cause serious leaks.
- (5) Have service garage clean wheel brake assemblies.
- (6) Have service garage clean alternator winding with compressed air after heavy accumulation or severe ash exposure.