Driving and Vehicle Maintenance

The following information is presented by the Municipality of Anchorage, Office of Emergency Management.

- Avoid driving in heavy ash unless absolutely required. Driving will stir up volcanic ash that can clog engines and stall vehicles. Moving parts can be damaged from abrasion, including bearings, brakes, and transmissions.
- When required to drive, keep speed down to 35 mph or lower. Do not follow too close to the car ahead of you and use headlights on low beam.
- Clean or replace air filters often. Wrapping the air cleaner intake or the element with silk or cheese cloth is of questionable value. It may not improve air cleaner filtration and could actually cause serious leaks.
- Change oil often and lubricate the chassis components at each oil change.
- Have a service garage clean wheel brake assemblies and clean alternate windings with compressed air after heavy accumulation or severe ash exposure.