

## Stuck and Need a Tow?

Recently, and over the past several years, incidents have occurred when a chain, sling, or nylon rope being used to tow out a vehicle snapped in two or the hook broke while attempting to dislodge a stuck vehicle that resulted in damaging one or both vehicles. Even more seriously, some incidents have come close to causing injury.

Make sure that whatever device is being used to pull out another vehicle the device is rated for the task. Be sure all devices are in good condition. Inspect chains, ropes, and slings prior to use and ensure there are no cracks in chains and hooks, the links in chains are not over stretched, there are no tears or frays in nylon ropes or slings, and there are no other defects that could render these devices unsafe to use. If you have a set of these devices in your vehicle, be sure they are always in good condition in case you need a tow. Use good judgment on the roads that you must travel on and be prepared for those situations where you may become stuck.

It's essential to recognize the dangers associated with pulling vehicles out of mud, sand, snow or any situation. Before any extraction of a vehicle or equipment, step back and think about what you are about to do. With all the tension and forces involved, keep yourself and others out of the line of fire in case of a tow line failure and/or vehicle surge. If it can't be done safely, call a professional tow company.



Remember: "No task is so important that it be done at the risk of Safety."

