

# Backcountry Users:



# Watch Where You Park

## Know where to park...



Skiers, snowshoers, and snowmobilers should use extreme caution when leaving vehicles or trailers on the side of road.

Backcountry users should park in clearly marked and designated parking areas, typically found at the summit of a mountain pass and at some trail heads.



Take heed of “no parking” signs. These areas need to be kept open with no vehicles or trailers so that plows and heavy equipment can be turned around safely.

Areas cleared of snow may also often lie on state or federal lands, for which CDOT does not have authority or responsibility to keep cleared.

These areas may provide ample room to park several feet away from the asphalt, but be aware that vehicle owners run the risk of being trapped with snow pushed by a plow. This also makes the snow removal job difficult for road maintenance crews.



Even if an unmarked area appears to be cleared of snow with plenty of room to park, backcountry users should know they are parking at their own risk.



## ◆ Look for caution signs...

Backcountry users should be aware of avalanche conditions. Look for caution signs indicating avalanche areas that are prone to snow slides. These slide areas are also often at locations where avalanche control operations may be planned.

For your safety, always obey caution signs when they advise that there is no stopping or standing at the location. Never park vehicles or trailers on the side of the road at these sites.



## Obey the law... When leaving vehicles unattended, backcountry users are at risk of breaking the law.

When leaving vehicles on the shoulder of the road, backcountry users are at risk of being fined and their vehicle being towed away. Owners who leave vehicles unattended on the side of the road are at risk of obstructing the operations of heavy equipment which is in violation of state law.

Read the Colorado law in its entirety by searching online for Colorado Revised Statutes:

- ⇒ 42-4-1202 – Parking or abandonment of vehicles
- ⇒ 42-4-1803 – Abandonment of vehicles on public property

Traction Law: <a href="http://winter.COdot.gov">winter.COdot.gov</a>	Report impaired or aggressive drivers Colorado State Patrol dial: *CSP (*277)
Road Conditions: <a href="http://COtrip.org">COtrip.org</a>	

