

Several motor vehicle collisions over the weekend

Grey County OPP investigated 23 motor vehicle collisions between 6 p.m. on Friday, March 14 and noon on Monday, March 17. The majority of collisions were minor in nature, with the exception of one, where the driver exited his vehicle on Grey Rd. 8 in the Township of Southgate during a whiteout condition and was struck by a tanker truck. The pedestrian was pronounced dead at the scene.

Grey County OPP wish to remind motorists that should they encounter winter whiteout conditions, activate the vehicle hazard lights ? pull over to the far right as possible ? or better yet, into a nearby laneway. Do not exit your vehicle unless it's absolutely necessary. Wait till the whiteout condition passes before continuing.

Of the 23 collisions investigated, eight involved deer. Hitting a deer or any animal could lead to a serious injury and could, at times, be fatal. At the very least, the experience will be unpleasant, inconvenient and costly.

Consider these tips to minimize the chances of being in a collision with a wild animal:

- ? Scan the road ahead from shoulder to shoulder. If there is wildlife beside the road, sound your horn to scare the animal away. Continue slowly and cautiously ? don't assume the animal will move in a predictable manner. They may leave the roadway and turn right back into your path.
- ? Use high beams at night where possible and watch for glowing eyes of animals.
- ? Stop as safely as possible if a wild animal is crossing the road. Remember, if there is one ? there's usually one or more following.
- ? Never swerve suddenly. This could cause your vehicle to go out of control and result in a more serious collision.
- ? Always wear your seatbelt.

Should you be involved in a collision with a deer, or other animal, and you or your passenger(s) are injured or where the vehicle damage apparently exceeds \$1,000, you must report the collision to police.