

# Drive the 5

- D**istracted free
- R**ested and alert
- I**mpairment free
- V**ehicle maintained
- E**nvironment aware

Learn more at [MyNSightOnline.com/DriveThe5](https://www.nationwide.com/DriveThe5)

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## Navigating gravel roads

Driving in rural areas likely means driving on a gravel road, which presents additional hazards drivers need to be aware of when driving on these types of roads.

- 1 Dust:** Dust reduces visibility, especially when following other vehicles. To mitigate this, reduce speed and maintain a safe distance from the vehicle ahead.
- 2 No shoulder and poor maintenance:** Gravel roads lack shoulders and may be inadequately maintained. Accumulated gravel at the edges can lead to loss of control.
- 3 Washboard effect:** The washboard effect, particularly at intersections, impairs braking efficiency. Bouncing wheels and tires can increase the difficulty of stopping, especially for trailered agricultural equipment with less responsive suspension systems.
- 4 Reduced traction:** Gravel roads offer less traction than asphalt or concrete surfaces. Tires have less grip, making vehicle handling more demanding. Reduce speed to compensate for reduced traction.
- 5 Spring thaw and ruts:** Poorly maintained gravel roads can develop ruts during wet weather, potentially causing vehicles to get stuck or forcing evasive maneuvers.