



# Tracks

December 2022

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## Toys for Tots Run 12.3

BSJ held its annual Toys for Tots Run at Brookridge on December 3, 2022. The weather was pretty wet but warm and the group was mid-sized with seven rigs attending. With a smaller size everyone was able to keep moving and spend more time on the trails and less waiting around. Overall, it was a great day!



The donation was another great success. Club members collected \$550 in personal donations to be added to the club's budgeted contribution of \$300. Thank you very much to everyone who participated. Toys were dropped off at the Winchester Fire Department (& Lunenburg). Special thanks to Chris Cipro who did the shopping and made the deliver. Great job everyone!

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## Upcoming Events

### NEA Runs and Pop-ups

There are a number of possible runs listed right now in the forums. There is an NEA Snow Run coming up and there are always pop-up runs club members are organizing. Pay attention to the [forums](#) for the latest news.

### Take the winter off

If you're like me you've got lots of projects awaiting your time. Any good Christmas presents coming your way? Take a weekend and give your jeep some love. It'll love you back if you do!

# Turkey Trot Run 11.25

Our annual day after Thanksgiving ride was another success this year. We had nine rigs on the trip and followed our traditional Class VI route again this year. However, in order to spice things up a bit, we did it in reverse! (Not the wheeling, but the route!)

Whether was wet, but the rain held off with only a sprinkle here and there. No one got stuck with only one really challenging section along the way that a handful of folks chose to go around. The biggest thrill was probably the mud and the puddles. Lots of mud and deep puddles to wade through!

Sadly, no one took too many pictures and no one posted them online (that I can find. Here's one I took of us getting started on the day!



## Final Issue?

### Is this going to be the final issue of Tracks?

This is definitely the final issue for 2022. We would normally take a break now and begin again in the spring. Right now, I'm not sure if Tracks will pick up again next season.

I will be taking over as Director of Events in 2023 and want to make sure I put in the necessary effort in that position. I would like to see us hold more 'events' for the club outside of wheeling rides.

*(Speaking of which, are there any events the club used to do that you would like to see return? We are currently working on Jeep 101 and the semi-annual meetings. I'm thinking of bringing back some of the ice-cream runs we once did. What else would you like to see? Let me know!)*

Anyway, if I dedicate a good amount of time to the DoE position and support other Board Directors, I will not have the time to continue Tracks? Do you want to take it on? Do you know someone who might enjoy the work? I'm happy to pass

The image shows the cover of the December 2022 issue of 'Tracks' magazine. The cover features a Jeep Wrangler in a wooded area. The title 'Tracks' is prominently displayed in a large, bold font. Below the title, there is a section titled 'Toys for Tots Run 12.3' with a small photo of a toy store. The cover also includes the 'Baystate Jeepers' logo and contact information for Dale Azevedo. A table of contents is located in the bottom left corner.

on all my templates and Q&A forms for *Meet the Board* and *Rig of the Month*. Let me know if you want to take it over! I'm happy to help with the transition.



## Additional Resources:

<https://www.mass.gov/winter-weather-driving>

- **Prepare your vehicle for winter driving** – Info on vehicle maintenance checks, suggested winter car supplies plus an emergency supplies list.
- **Safe winter driving tips** - Avoid driving during winter storms unless it is absolutely necessary. If you must travel, here are driving tips to keep you safe.
- **In case you are stranded while driving in the winter** - If possible, call 911. Here are multiple tips to follow if you're stranded.

charged, etc. If possible, make frequent fuel stops and keep that tank topped up, especially in bad weather.

- i) Important: when idling your vehicle during a snowstorm, regularly clear away snow from your exhaust. There's a risk of carbon monoxide poisoning if your exhaust gets blocked.
  - c) **Additional water and snacks.** I like to keep a full Nalgene bottle and a box of Clif bars in my vehicle. You can also fill with that bottle with snow and drink from it once the snow has melted. Best case, pack some additional bottled water in your trunk.
  - d) **A sleeping bag or heavy blanket.** Pack an older or extra sleeping bag in each of your vehicles. My family has a collection of sleeping bags that just sit in the closet during the winter months – toss one in the trunk just in case. With a stuff sack, most bags take up very little room.
  - e) **Frequently check the weather reports.** Keep current on what the weather will be like along your route. Use [Weather.Com](http://Weather.Com) or your favorite weather app to stay smart. Leaving early or staying later to avoid a potential storm may be your best choice.
- 3) **If you get stranded offroad or on a less-travelled road.**
- a) You should have everything listed above, plus:
  - b) **Let someone who is responsible know where you're going** and when you'll get there. And the route you're going to take. If you're overdue, first responders will have a much better idea for where to start their search. Don't take "short cuts" during bad weather.
  - c) **Stay with your vehicle!** It's much easier to find a Jeep or car vs. a lone person. Your vehicle is also an excellent shelter. There are many stories of [families surviving days in their vehicles](#) and a similar number of stories where the [dad or mother went for help during a storm only to be found dead](#) while the rest of the family survived in their vehicle.
  - d) **Have a signal device.** If you're really in the middle of nowhere, you'll need to make yourself visible. While running the engine, turn on your high beams and flashers. During the daytime, tie a bright piece of cloth to your antenna or door handle. If you're offroad, stamp out "HELP" in large letters in the snow near your vehicle. Fill the stamped letters with leaves or branches to increase visibility from above.