



BHR EMC Education Series

Vehicle Recovery 101, Self-Recovery Basics

Cody Julian





About Regional Professional Towing Companies

- These are typically small private companies who treat their employees like family – most are good folks
 - They are not required to come to your rescue, it is their call whether to engage or not
 - Many do not have 4-wheel drive wreckers
 - If you chose to travel when you shouldn't have, it doesn't mean they will, and the worse the incident, the more it will cost
- Respect their decision – their employee safety and their equipment vs your predicament
- Rates range around \$200/hour for simple incidents



JM Tire 719-859-4202





Common Sense Overview of Getting out of Trouble on BHR Roads

- How to be **HELPPABLE** – *the minimum ante*
 - *What you need to know*
 - *What you need to have*
 - *What you need to know how to do*
- How to **HELP YOURSELF** - in addition to all of the above...
 - What you need to know
 - What you need to have
 - What you need to know how to do
- How to **HELP OTHERS** – in addition to all of the above...
 - What you need to know
 - What you need to have
 - What you need to know how to do





How to be Helpable

- Know the weather and road conditions prior to leaving home
 - Don't go if your vehicle, gear or skill will not pass muster
- Know the BHR and it's roads well enough to **KNOW WHERE YOU ARE:**
 - Be able to tell someone where you are with some detail, not just a road name
 - Avoid certain roads when snow, ice or mud are present – lady luck is fickle
- Know your VEHICLE
 - Jacking points, tow points, jack use and read your owner's manual!
- Know the minimum ante of GEAR you should have in vehicle
 - Battery cable, shovel, tow rope, gloves, zip tie chains, jack, fire extinguisher
 - Blanket, candles, first aid kit, flash light, cellphone or radio. Consider installing a hitch receiver to the rear of your vehicle (some vehicles preclude that).





How to HELP YOURSELF

- **What you need to Know**

- How to assess your situation with regard to self- or assisted-recovery
- How to determine if you have the right gear to self-recover
- How to call for help (hint: cellphone or radio)

- **What you need to Have on Board**

- Zip tie Chains, tow rope, spare tire, jack, shovel, shackles, tree saver strap, come-along or winch, shovel, traction boards, flashlight, water, sand or sawdust.

- **What you need to know How To Do:**

- Install Zip-Tie Chains; where to attach a tow rope; how to change a tire; how/where to use a jack; how to jump a battery; how to create an anchor point; how to use a come-along; how to use a shovel to dig out a mired vehicle; how/when to use traction boards.





How to HELP OTHERS

- **What you need to Know**

- How to assess the other vehicle and its condition
- How to determine if your skill, vehicle and gear are capable of helping
- How to call for help (hint: cellphone or radio)

- **What you need to Have on Board**

- Tire chains, tow rope, High-Lift Jack, shovel, shackle(s), tree saver strap(s), snatch block(s), portable or permanent winch, extra winch line, shovel, traction boards, tire chocks, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, water, cellphone or radio.

- **What you need to Know How To Do**

- How and where to attach a tow rope/strap between your vehicle and the disabled vehicle; setup an anchor point using a tree saver, shackle and your vehicle; deploy and execute a single line winch pull; know how to shovel a wheel path for either a tow rope pull, traction boards or a winch pull; know how to safely use a winch to recover a vehicle.





Some Important **Take Home Lessons** from Recovery 101

- Know the weather and road conditions so you do not endanger yourself or those kind souls who may attempt to rescue you – no excuse for not knowing this
- Know what to expect when you call a tow truck
- At the very least know how to be helpable and commit to being that or more
- Commit to equip yourself to a level in which you can safely operate
- Attempt to become more self-reliant and resourceful in road incidents
- If you go to help someone remember that you are "self deploying" and that the ranch is in no way responsible for injuries, damage to your vehicle or damage to the vehicle needing recovery





Photos from the Recovery 101 Event





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Additional Notes

- Many thanks to Cody Julian for presenting this very informative session for the EMC! Thanks also to Marian Brooks for serving as our scribe for the event.
- Most, if not all, of the recommended gear/equipment can be purchased online (Amazon, etc).
- It is not possible to fully teach HOW to do many of the procedures in a simple 2 hour session or a short PPT – for questions on more in-depth discussion on some of the procedures noted in this presentation, please call Brad Brooks (719-252-5621). Same for more information on radio use on the ranch.

