

# Deschutes County SkidCar Training Program

## Training Platform

Deschutes County SkidCar Training is an all-weather driver enhancement program taught with the aid of the SKIDCAR System. The SKIDCAR framework attaches to the suspension of a vehicle to allow the front and rear tires to be lifted or lowered independently with a controller. The system allows drivers to experience the inclement driving conditions that cause a vehicle to lose traction in a safe and controlled learning environment.

## Program Information

The program incorporates one hour of classroom instruction followed by three hours of hands-on driving in the vehicle. The instructor will cover various techniques, including proper eye placement, acceleration, braking, steering, weight and energy management, as well as proper tire decisions and maintenance. Participants will learn the proper use of antilock braking systems and understand the differences between rear wheel drive, front wheel drive and four wheel drive systems, as well as Electronic Stability Control and Electronic Traction Control in modern vehicles. Participants will also discuss and practice skid/slide prevention, control and recovery.



**100% Vehicle Control  
100% of the Time**

The course is taught by retired Deschutes County Sheriff's Lieutenant Michael Johnston, who has over 30 years of experience in law enforcement. Michael was the lead developer and instructor for the Deschutes County Sheriff's Office Emergency Vehicle Operations Training Program. Currently, Michael serves as a Senior Instructor for the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training.

The course is available through Deschutes County Risk Management and sponsored by the Deschutes County Board of Commissioners. The program is free for Deschutes County employees, volunteers and interns. The course is offered to members of the general public for a \$100.00 fee. Classes are offered seven days a week (starting at 8:00 am or 1:00 pm) and capacity is limited to three participants each – private classes are not available. Gift certificates are available for purchase through Deschutes County Risk Management.

### Register Online

<https://www.deschutes.org/skidcar>



**Risk Management**  
**skidcar@deschutes.org**

**[www.deschutes.org/skidcar](http://www.deschutes.org/skidcar)**

*To request this information in an alternative format, please call (541) 385-1749 or send an email to [accessibility@deschutes.org](mailto:accessibility@deschutes.org).*