

MAXPOWER LAW

# ROAD & RUBBER



## IN THIS ISSUE

- Spring Riding can be Dangerous 1
- What Clients are Saying 2
- Be Kind to Lawyers Day 2
- April Events 2
- How Weather Can Affect Accidents 3
- Shelly's Recipe Corner 3

## Spring Riding Season Most Dangerous in Washington - Be Extra Vigilant

We got some great sunny days in March, which always means motorcycle riders get their bikes out for a cruise. After a long cold winter, riders are all eager to throw a leg over the bike and hit the road for some fun. However, springtime in Washington seems to be the most dangerous for motorcycle riders.

Cars quickly forget to look for motorcycles over the Fall and Winter, resulting in more serious crashes in the Spring. Fatal accidents in general have been rising for the last couple of years. As we know, motorcyclists are very exposed. Knowledge is power in my book, the more you know the better you can protect yourself.

Be extra careful and vigilant in the Spring when riding picks up. My favorite tip is to stay out of cars' blind spots as much as possible, which often for me meant riding a little more assertive than other drivers, just to stay as safe as possible.

*Safe Riding!*



## FREE INSTANT DOWNLOAD

Discover the secrets insurance companies don't want you to know.

Get Max's book: *The Ultimate Guide to Motorcycle Accident Cases in Washington: Motorcycle Accident Secrets Unlocked.*

Visit our website at [www.WashingtonMotorcycle-Book.com](http://www.WashingtonMotorcycle-Book.com) to get your free download now or call **425.276.7804** to have a copy mailed to you.

## What Clients are Saying about the MML Team...

“Worked with Max Meyers Law firm for my auto accident. Great person and was always there when had any questions regarding what was going on with the case. I would recommend this law firm to anyone I know who is ever in an auto accident.”

- Rodney G.

## Five Stars!



## International Be Kind to Lawyers Day!

International Be Kind to Lawyers Day is April 13th. You know us and hopefully you love us too!

## April Events

### April 1 - 30 Skagit Valley Tulip Festival

Features spectacular fields of blooming tulips and daffodils. There is a free Tulip Festival Street Fair that takes place April 19 - 21 in Mt. Vernon. Visit [www.tulipfestivalstreetfair.com/events](http://www.tulipfestivalstreetfair.com/events) for Street Fair details.

Visit [www.tulipfestival.org/](http://www.tulipfestival.org/) for Festival details.

### April 12 - 14 Cherry Blossom Festival

The Cherry Blossom Festival celebrates Seattle's friendship with Japan and Japan's gift of 1000 cherry trees in 1976. Enjoy Japanese art, dance, music, martial arts, and food in the Armory and Fisher Pavilion at Seattle Center, 305 Harrison St. in Seattle.

Visit [www.cherryblossomfest.org](http://www.cherryblossomfest.org) for more details.

### April 20 - 21 International Children's Festival

Children from around the world dance, sing, play music, make origami, and get faces painted at the International Children's Friendship Festival in Fisher Pavilion at Seattle Center, 305 Harrison St. in Seattle. For details and information, visit [childrensfest.tacawa.org/](http://childrensfest.tacawa.org/).

### April 20 Free National Park Day

Entry is free at Mount Rainier and Olympic National Parks on Free Entrance Days in the National Parks. Expect more people and less parking than usual. FREE

Details at [www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/fee-free-parks.htm](http://www.nps.gov/planyourvisit/fee-free-parks.htm).

### April 25 - May 5 Washington State Apple Blossom Festival

The Washington State Apple Blossom Festival in sunny Wenatchee offers apple pie, arts and crafts, golf, a car show, carnival, parade, and run.

Details can be found at [www.appleblossom.org](http://www.appleblossom.org).



# How Can Bad Weather Affect A Car Accident Claim?

If you're involved in a collision with another vehicle during adverse weather conditions, it can be easy to blame the weather instead of the other driver, especially if the roads were hazardous at the time of the crash. But as any car accident attorney will tell you, reasons for the collision are often more complicated than they seem, and the cause might not reveal itself until the evidence is examined.

Here's the bottom line: regardless of weather or road conditions, all motorists have a responsibility under the law to drive safely. If a motorist drives recklessly for the conditions, they may be liable for damages. Let's take a closer look.

## Snow, Ice, Rain, Fog or Wind

As almost every Washington State driver knows, snow and ice can create deadly road conditions. Braking and stopping safely takes longer when surfaces are slick, and sliding and spin-outs are common. Rain lengthens stopping times and limits visibility. Additionally, standing water, puddles, and flooding

lead to hydroplaning, an extremely dangerous out-of-control slide on water.

Fog reduces visibility down to almost zero, making it impossible to see more than a few feet ahead of you on the road—and using your regular headlights doesn't help. Motorists struggling with foggy conditions are one of the leading causes of chain reaction crashes



involving dozens of vehicles. Many drivers don't consider wind a dangerous weather condition, but it's an invisible hazard. Strong

winds can cause vehicles to lose control or - for taller vehicles, like commercial tractor-trailers - tip over.

## Who's at Fault for Car Accidents During Bad Weather?

It's often simplistic to say that bad weather caused a car collision. Why? Because drivers have a duty to adjust their speed, driving distance, and overall care in poor conditions. In other words, if you were struck by another motorist in adverse weather conditions, you have to ask: even if they were driving the speed limit, were they reckless for the conditions? This might mean they were traveling too fast on ice, not using their lights in the rain, or following too closely in the fog.

It's also important to realize that even in bad weather, motorists can cause an accident due to other common types of negligence, including:

- Distracted driving
- Fatigued driving or falling asleep at the wheel
- Driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol

cont. on page 4

## Shelly's RECIPE CORNER

# RHUBARB CRISP

Spring is Rhubarb season and if you love the tartness it brings, this recipe is for you!

### Ingredients:

- 1¾ cups all-purpose flour
- ¾ cup old-fashioned rolled oats
- ½ cup (packed) light-brown sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1 stick (4 oz.) cold unsalted butter, cut into pieces
- ½ cup coarsely chopped pecans
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten
- 3 lb. rhubarb, fresh or frozen, cut into 1" pieces
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 Tbsp. chopped crystallized ginger
- Finely grated zest of 1 orange
- ½ cup fresh orange juice
- 2 Tbsp. cornstarch
- Whipped cream for serving



### Directions:

Put oven rack in middle position and preheat to 350°F.

Combine flour, oats, brown sugar, and cinnamon in a medium bowl.

Using a pastry cutter or two knives, work in the butter until mixture is crumbly. Add pecans and egg, then toss with a fork. Set aside.

Combine rhubarb, granulated sugar, ginger, and orange zest in a

3-quart baking dish.

In a small bowl, stir the orange juice and cornstarch to combine; toss with the rhubarb mixture.

Spread the crisp topping over the rhubarb and bake until golden and bubbly, 45-50 minutes. Serve with whipped cream.



**APRIL 5TH**  
IS WALK TO WORK DAY

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# How Can Bad Weather Affect A Car Accident Claim?

cont. from page 3

- Not obeying traffic laws

**Other Parties Could Be at Fault, Too**

It's not just a motorist who could be found responsible for your bad weather car accident. Other parties are considered liable in many circumstances.

For example, a semi could tip over in high winds because the trucking company packed cargo irresponsibly, causing it to be top-heavy. Or a municipality might have neglected to clearly label an intersection, leading to a history of dangerous collisions. Perhaps a commercial operator wasn't properly trained to drive their vehicle, causing a crash in the snow. Maybe a car had a set of faulty windshield wipers that didn't properly work in a rainstorm, making it impossible for the driver to see.

Some of these causes can be absolutely hidden at the time of the crash and require investigation to uncover.



**MML Team Can Help**

Because car accident claims and litigation can be complicated—and even more so if

weather is a factor - we can help you through every step of the case.

Our team at MML will investigate the case, gathering evidence, finding the causes, and getting to the bottom of who was at fault.

Then, we'll present an argument for your case, negotiate with insurers, protect your rights in court, and ensure you have as much opportunity to get the compensation you deserve. Call us today to discuss your case at **(425) 276-7804**.



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