

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, March 2, 2010
Gainesville – 10:30 a.m.

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**WINTER WEATHER BATTLE PLAN FOR NORTHEAST
GEORGIA**

- WHEN:** Ongoing
- WHERE:** Georgia DOT began today’s battle with winter weather at 6 a.m.in eight counties; Banks, Habersham, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White Counties. Crews are monitoring the weather throughout Northeast Georgia and will respond to changing roadway conditions as needed.
- WHY:** Snow is currently falling in Northeast Georgia. Snow is accumulating on roadways and bridges in Banks, Habersham, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union and White counties. Icy patches on bridges can form as snow melts. Dangerous conditions can develop quickly.
- HOW:** Georgia DOT utilizes a roadway snow strategy to keep the most used roadways open and safe for you to use.
- DOT’s first priority is the interstate system – it is our national evacuation route and must be kept open for traffic.
 - DOT’s second priority is four and five lane state routes. These state routes carry most of the local traffic.
 - Our last priority is two lane state routes and depending on the severity of the situation, two lane state routes may not get any work from DOT crews.
- WARNING:** As the weather system enters their area, the public is strongly encouraged to refrain from all but necessary driving. If driving is required, motorists should call 511 or visit www.511ga.org for current information on road conditions. Reduced speed, patience and extreme caution are urged at all times. Drivers are advised to stay at least 100 feet behind and to not pass Georgia DOT equipment treating roadways.

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