

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Media Alert

For Immediate Release

Contact: Craig Solomon
(229) 309-9706

Friday, February 12, **Updated 9:40 P.M.**

WINTER WEATHER HAS ARRIVED IN SOUTHWEST GEORGIA - GDOT IS PREPARED - UPDATE ON ROAD CONDITIONS #5

WHEN: Ongoing

WHERE: Southwest Georgia (Quitman, Terrell, Randolph, Clay, Calhoun, Early, Miller, Seminole, Baker, Decatur, Dougherty, Mitchell, Grady, Worth, Colquitt, Thomas, Brooks, Lowndes, Crisp, Lee, Wilcox, Turner, Tift, Cook, Ben Hill, Irwin, Berrien, Lanier, Clinch, Echols, Coffee, Atkinson counties)

WHAT: Winter weather preparations kicked into high gear today as the Georgia DOT Maintenance crews in District Four in Southwest Georgia begin treating roads and bridges for snow and ice. Georgia DOT crews are currently working to treat or clear the roadways and bridges in the following counties where snow and or icing are occurring: Lee and Mitchell Counties - reports of possible ice on roads; We are salting and scraping road and bridges in Dougherty County.

Reports of possible ice on roads; We are salting and scraping the Interstate 75 ramps, bridges, and overpasses in Cook, Turner, Crisp counties.

Dougherty County - reports of possible ice on roads; We are salting and scraping road and bridges in Dougherty County.

Lee County – reports of possible ice on roads; We are salting road and bridges in Lee county .

Randolph County - roads are wet but passable; salting road and bridges in Randolph county

No federal or state routes are closed at this time in Southwest Georgia.

Updates will be provided as new information is reported.

Motorists are strongly encouraged to stay off the roadways and slow down. Leave, at least, a ten car length distance between their vehicles and the DOT trucks clearing the roadways. Do not attempt to pass DOT spreader trucks, heavy equipment or vehicles clearing the roadways; your vehicle could be hit with salt and gravel. Also, there is a

chance the roadway in front of the DOT vehicle may not have been treated for ice. Motorists are also advised to treat any traffic signal that is not working as a four-way stop, and to be aware of black ice, especially on bridges and overpasses.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this winter weather episode and other maintenance operations and construction projects on interstates and state routes. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, such as traffic conditions, incidents, lane closures, and delays due to inclement weather. Callers also can transfer to operators to request assistance or report incidents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information is available at www.511ga.org.

###