

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release

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Friday, February 13, 2010 Updated 10:05 A.M.

WINTER WEATHER HAS ARRIVED IN SOUTHWEST GEORGIA - GDOT IS PREPARED / UPDATE ON ROAD CONDITIONS # 8

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: During the last 24 hours, over 140 dedicated Southwest Georgia DOT Maintenance employees and support personnel begin preparations for the possibility of icy conditions. Around 10 a.m., Friday, February 12, DOT Crews begin clearing roads and bridges and treating them for snow and ice problems with salt, gravel, and sand. 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:

Saturday, February 13

- 10:05 a.m. Crews are checking all bridges, overpasses, and roads in Southwest Georgia for reoccurring ice, all roads are passable at this time.
- 7 a.m. Crews are checking all bridges, overpasses, and roads in Southwest Georgia, all are passable; possible reoccurring ice.

Friday, February 12

- Worth and Turner counties - reports of possible ice on roads; We are salting and scraping roads and bridges in Worth and Turner counties.
- Lee and Mitchell Counties - reports of possible ice on roads; We are salting and scraping roads and bridges in Dougherty County.
- Interstate 75 - 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 roads and bridges in Dougherty County.
- Lee County – reports of possible ice on roads; We are salting roads and bridges in Lee county
- Randolph County - roads are wet but passable; salting roads 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.

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