



For Immediate Release:

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West Central Georgia...

Don't Get Your Tinsel Tangled:

Georgia DOT Suspends Lane Closures and Reminds Holiday Travelers to Plan Ahead, Expect Delays and Call 511

THOMASTON— With Christmas Day falling on a Wednesday, the Georgia Department of Transportation anticipates more travelers than usual during the holiday week. Motorists should expect congestion near malls and retail centers throughout the week.

“We anticipate heavy traffic throughout West Central Georgia beginning Friday, December 20, around noon” said District 3 Engineer Thomas Howell. “Mall and retail center traffic will be particularly congested. Additionally, many travelers will be on our roadways over the weekend prior to Christmas and the following week.”

In West Central Georgia, high congestion areas include, but are not limited to the following areas:

- I-75 in both directions in Clayton and Henry Counties
- I-75, I-16 and I-475 in Bibb County
- I-75 in Houston and Dooly Counties

As a reminder, Georgia DOT will suspend construction-related lane closures on all interstates and major state routes from 5 p.m. Friday, December 20 through 5 a.m. Thursday, January 2, 2014. Incident management or emergency maintenance-related lane closures could become necessary on any route.

Check the maps on www.georgia-navigator.com for current road conditions, or call 511 on any phone for free, real-time traffic information. Traveler information is also available at www.511ga.org and a toll-free number for callers from outside the state, 1-877-MYGA511 (1-877-694-2511).

Georgia 511 provides statewide traffic conditions, route-specific information and estimated travel times within metro Atlanta. Additionally, 511 callers can access transit providers, major airports, rideshare organizations, Georgia tourism information and 511 systems in neighboring states.

For those preparing to fly, 511 connects callers to airports in Atlanta and Savannah for information on parking, delays or connections to carriers. An automated voice recognition system guides the service, but callers can also reach live operators to report accidents or congestion, request HERO assistance or obtain additional information.

The Georgia Department of Transportation provides a safe, connected and environmentally sensitive transportation system that enhances Georgia's economic competitiveness by working efficiently and communicating effectively to create strong partnerships. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit www.dot.ga.gov or subscribe to our Press Release [RSS feed](#). You may follow us on [Facebook](#) (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT) and [Twitter](#) (<http://twitter.com/gadepoftrans>).

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The Georgia Department of Transportation works to improve the quality of water discharged from roadways and properties owned and operated by the Department into Georgia's waterways. The Department has appropriated \$15 million to be spent by 2017 for continuous improvements to stormwater quality. For more information, visit Georgia DOT's Stormwater Pollution Prevention <http://www.dot.ga.gov/Projects/programs/environment/Pages/StormWater.aspx> webpage.

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