



For Immediate Release:
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TWO NEWLY UPGRADED SIGNALS IN FLOYD COUNTY TO BE TURNED ON

ROME, Ga. – The Georgia Department of Transportation announces two newly upgraded traffic signals in Floyd County are scheduled to be fully operational on Wednesday, September 16, 2015. The traffic signals on State Route (SR) 1 at its intersections with Walker Mountain Road and on SR 20 at 2nd Avenue will to be fully operational at mid-morning.

“These upgraded signals allows for a flashing yellow left turns. The flashing yellow arrows help drivers better understand when to make a left turn freely, when they should proceed with their turn cautiously, and when they cannot turn left. Our primary purpose is to reduce the crashes that result when a left-turning vehicle is struck by oncoming traffic. Please be cautious until you get familiar with the changes at these six intersections. Remember, other drivers may be surprised by the new signals so give yourself plenty of space between you and the driver in front of you,” said Dewayne Comer, district engineer at the Georgia DOT office in Cartersville.

Traffic signals with flashing yellow left turn arrows are proven to be safer. A decade-long national study by the Federal Highway Administration found that drivers had fewer crashes with the flashing yellow arrow. They are also more efficient as they provide more options for controlling traffic based on variable traffic volumes since the timing sequence can be made to vary throughout the day.

Georgia DOT kindly reminds motorists how to react if they encounter a malfunctioning traffic signal. Motorists should proceed with caution if they are facing a flashing yellow light and yield to vehicles and pedestrians who are already in the intersection. A flashing red light means motorists should come to a complete stop, just like at a stop sign. If power is out and the traffic signals are off please treat the intersection as an all-way stop. When it is safe to do so, please call 511 to report the malfunction to GDOT.

DriveAlert ArriveAlive campaign calls attention to an alarming increase in roadway fatalities across Georgia, many resulting from preventable crashes and distracted driving. **DriveAlert ArriveAlive** implores motorists to buckle up; stay off the phone and no texting; and drive alert. Visit www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/DAAA. #ArriveAliveGA For information on the Department of Transportation, visit <http://www.dot.ga.gov>. You also may like us on (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT-Northwest) and follow us on *Twitter* (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNW>).

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