



For Immediate Release

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To Accommodate Easter, Spring Break & Event Traffic
Georgia DOT Limits Construction Lane Closures Next Three Weekends
Motorists Should Still Plan Ahead!

ATLANTA – Motorists traveling this weekend for Easter, or the following two weekends for Spring Break, or upcoming events like the Masters or the Atlanta Braves’ opening for example, should find their trips less stressful thanks to restricted construction lane closures on some interstates and state routes by the Georgia Department of Transportation. However, due to the need to continue limited work, there are work zones with permanent lane closures that will remain in place and lead to delays for motorists. These projects include the Northwest Corridor Express Lanes in Cobb and Cherokee counties and I-75 South Express Lanes in Clayton and Henry counties.

Times for restricted lane closures around the state will vary this Easter weekend, depending on the location. **At a minimum**, Georgia DOT will limit lane closures on interstate highways and state routes from 9 p.m. Fri., March 25 until midnight Sun., March 27. These times will be extended in some locales.

While lane closures statewide are generally limited to daytime hours, Metro Atlanta and northwest Georgia will see restricted closures during overnight hours. The restriction is implemented to offset increased holiday traffic. Please note that this does not include emergency lane closures that may be necessary during these weekends.

With the anticipated heavy traffic, Georgia DOT reminds drivers to plan ahead and be patient as they move through work zones. As always, motorists are encouraged to wear seatbelts, eliminate distractions behind the wheel, and plan their routes before getting on the road. For updated information about travel conditions on Georgia’s interstates and state routes, GDOT advises travelers to call 511 or consult www.511ga.org before heading out.

“We cannot overemphasize enough the need to slow down, drive alert and take every precaution to protect yourself and your passengers while on the roadways,” said State Construction Engineer Marc Mastronardi.

Georgia DOT also advises motorists - in the event of a crash or breakdown - to never get out of the car on a freeway, unless your life is in imminent danger. Pull onto the nearest shoulder as far from the travel lanes as possible and call 511 for HERO assistance in Metro Atlanta, or 911 for medical emergency service anywhere in Georgia.

Also note that Georgia’s Move-over Law requires drivers to move-over one lane when a law enforcement, emergency vehicle or construction crew is on the side of the road and displaying flashing emergency lights. If it is unsafe to move over, then slow down below the posted speed and proceed with caution.

In 2015 there were 1,414 fatalities on Georgia’s roads. That’s the first annual increase in a decade. Many of these deaths are preventable – attributed to distracted driving and failure to wear a seat belt. DriveAlert ArriveAlive implores motorists to drive responsibly. 1—buckle up; 2—stay off the phone/no texting; and 3—drive alert. Take the pledge at www.dot.ga.gov/DAAA. #ArriveAliveGA

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