



For Immediate Release: Wednesday, January 29, 2014 **Contact:** Jill Nagel 912.424.6643 Mobile

10:00 a.m. UPDATE: Additional information identified in red.

FREEZING TEMPS CREATING EXTREMELY HAZARDOUS DRIVING CONDITIONS IN SOUTHEAST GEORGIA

Jesup, GA – Georgia DOT crews have been active throughout the night traveling the state roadways for icy area in Southeast Georgia. They will continue to monitor the state routes and interstates as this winter storm moves across our area. Georgia DOT is urging motorists to stay off of highways as conditions are likely to continue to deteriorate until both the sun and temperatures rise.

The Department advises the public to refrain from all but such absolutely necessary travel until midday Wednesday at the earliest. If motorists must travel, please be patient with conditions and with one another and be extremely cautious. Slow down considerably; allow extra distance between yourself and other vehicles, maintain a steady speed; avoid lane changing and sudden acceleration or braking; and never pass a Georgia DOT, contractor or local government truck treating the road. Also, avoid driving during overnight hours as black ice will form on streets, roads and highways and is virtually impossible to detect in the dark.

Currently classified as **temporarily unpassable** is the **Houlihan Bridge** on State Route 25 at the Georgia/South Carolina State Line. Crews are monitoring this location.

Crews are working throughout Southeast Georgia. These following locations are hazardous, icing has been reported and crews are working in these areas:

CHATHAM - US 17/SR 25/SR 404 at Talmadge Bridge; SR 21 at viaduct north of fire station in Port Wentworth; **SR 26 at milepost 1.4-2.0 in Thunderbolt; (I-95) at milepost 109.0-111.96**

BULLOCH – US 341/SR 73 Bridges over Ogeechee River Overflow and railway near Screven County Line; SR 24 Bridge over Ogeechee River

WHEELER – SR 46 at milepost 0.0 - 0.5; SR 280 at milepost 17.2 - 17.3; SR 441 at milepost 0.0 - 0.8

MONTGOMERY – SR 280 at milepost 0.0 - 0.9

APPLING – SR 4 at milepost 21.1 - 21.2; SR 121 at milepost 26.1 - 26.2

JEFF DAVIS - SR 135 Bridge @ Jeff Davis/Montgomery Line at milepost 24.0 - 24.1

EFFINGHAM – I-95 at milepost 111.96-112.58

TOOMBS – SR 86 Bridge over Ohooppee River at milepost 2.00; SR152 Bridge over Swift Creek at milepost 1.93; SR152 Bridge over Pendleton Creek at milepost 3.93; SR56 Bridge over Rocky Creek at milepost 4.84; SR 297 Bridge over Swift Creek at milepost 1.66; SR292 Bridge over Ohooppee River at milepost 15.46; SR292 Bridge over Pendleton Creek at milepost 11.29

TATTNALL – SR 30 Bridge over Ohooppee River at mile post 0.26; SR147 Bridge over Ohooppee River at mile post 3.73; SR56 Nails Bridge over Ohooppee River at mile post 2.86; SR178 Bridge over Ohooppee River at mile post 9.76; SR178 Bridge over Ohooppee River at mile post 9.50

Motorists are urged to:

Slow down and stay behind the spreaders. The road behind the spread truck will be the safest place to drive. Allow at least ten car lengths between your vehicle and spreaders.

Do not pass. The spreader trucks are wide, and sometimes a group of trucks will work in tandem to spread salt and gravel quickly, especially on major highways.

PRESSALERT

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Be particularly aware of black ice conditions on surfaces such as bridge decks and entrance and exit ramps late tonight and the early hours of Thursday morning.

Remember that technology helps, but only to a point. Four-wheel drive, anti-lock brakes and traction control are beneficial advancements in today's cars, trucks and SUVs, but they can't take the place of good driving habits and the need to reduce speed on snowy or icy roads.

Georgia DOT urges travelers to exercise caution and call 511 for updated information on roadway conditions before getting on the road during a winter weather event. Georgia 511 is a free phone service that provides real-time traffic and travel information statewide, including winter weather closures, reports of icing or other hazardous conditions on interstates and state routes. 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. For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit www.dot.ga.gov or subscribe to our Press Release [RSS feed](#).

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