



NEWS RELEASE

VirginiaDOT.org

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MOTORISTS URGED TO AVOID TRAVEL DURING WINTER STORM

LYNCHBURG – A wide range of winter weather is in the forecast for the upcoming weekend and, perhaps, into early next week. Snow, sleet, freezing rain and rain are all possible in the Lynchburg District of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and VDOT is urging motorists to travel in advance of the storm, if possible but to avoid travel during the event.

If travel is absolutely necessary, motorists are encouraged to plan accordingly. Know the conditions – visit 511Virginia.org or call 511 for updated road conditions 24 hours per day. Drive for the conditions – reduce speed, stop/start/steer slowly. Have increased care on bridges, overpasses, low lying areas near water or shaded areas which may freeze first. If you do encounter VDOT equipment or other emergency responders displaying amber, red or blue lights, please remember to move over.

Because the storm is occurring over the weekend, it is anticipated that fewer vehicles will be on the road which will offer VDOT a better opportunity to plow snow and/or follow up on any other concerns.

Crews have pretreated primary and major secondary routes across the ten-county district which includes the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Cumberland, Halifax, Nelson, Pittsylvania and Prince Edward and will report to work in 12-hour shifts starting Saturday. Work on primary routes, those numbered 600 and above, and major secondary routes will be the first priority for crews during and immediately after the storm. Once those roads have been addressed, efforts will move to secondary routes and neighborhood streets.

Additional information about winter weather preparations and response can be found at www.virginiadot.org/travel/snow.asp. Local updates are posted to [Twitter.com/VaDOTLynchburg](https://twitter.com/VaDOTLynchburg).

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