



**For Immediate Release:**  
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## GEORGIA DOT URGES MOTORTIST TO WATCH OUT FOR SPOTS OF BLACK ICE ON NORTHWEST GEORGIA HIGHWAYS

CATERSVILLE, Ga. – Georgia DOT officials are advising motorists in Northwest Georgia to watch out for black ice forming on the highways as rain and snow/sleet mix freeze over the dark pavement overnight into tomorrow morning. Although over 40 of the Department’s trucks are still out clearing the highways and treating their icy spots, most roadways are wet and if the temperatures drop, they could create dangerous icy road conditions. Northwest Georgia skies are also expected to clear tonight, but clear skies could mean lower temperatures worsening already dicey road conditions.

These officials are concerned about Thursday morning’s driving conditions and the possibility of black ice, which forms when a thin layer of water on the pavement freezes. It can be nearly impossible for drivers to spot it in time to slow down. Drivers on Northwest Georgia roads are advised to use extreme caution if they have to go out late tonight or early tomorrow morning. You could run across a slick spot at any point. Tomorrow morning’s commute may prove to be a challenge.

Motorists are urged to slow down and leave, at least, a two car length distance between their vehicles and the vehicle in front of them. If you do hit an icy patch while driving, turn your steering wheel in the direction of the slide. They are also advised to treat any traffic signal that is not working as a four-way stop, and be aware of black ice, especially on bridges and overpasses in the early morning hours.

*Motorists can access real-time, statewide, route-specific information on accidents, road work, and traffic and weather conditions through **Georgia 511** - a free phone service. By dialing 511, callers also can transfer to operators to 24 hours a day to report incidents or request assistance. The system can be used to access transit providers, major airports, rideshare organizations, tourism information and 511 systems in surrounding states. Additionally, 511 is available online. Georgia DOT partners with sponsors for assistance in funding 511, thereby preserving tax dollars and helping sustain critical services. For more information about 511, visit [511ga.org](http://511ga.org). For more information on Georgia DOT, please visit [www.dot.ga.gov](http://www.dot.ga.gov). You also may like us on ([www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT-Northwest](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT-Northwest)) and follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/GDOTNW) (<https://twitter.com/GDOTNW>).*

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