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Missourians Advised to Stay Home During Tuesday's Storm

FEBRUARY 03RD 2014 BY DEE LOFLIN

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*Submitted by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

Missouri - Another major winter storm is making its way into Missouri, bringing heavy snowfall and strong winds across much of the state on Tuesday, Feb. 4.

Due to expected hazardous conditions, the Missouri Department of Transportation has issued a "no travel advisory" for the duration of the event.

This storm will enter Missouri during the overnight hours tonight and will continue all day Tuesday, Feb. 4. It will impact travel across the entire state, with the biggest impact to the northern half of the state, which could see 6 to 10 inches of snow.

"For your safety and the safety of our crews, we're asking that once this storm hits your region of the state, you avoid travel unless it is a dire emergency,"

said Elizabeth Wright, MoDOT state maintenance engineer. "Snow is predicted to be heavy throughout the day and strong winds will blow the snow around, creating a whiteout effect that makes travel extremely hazardous." This storm is forecast to shape up much like the heavy snow Missouri faced nearly a year ago. Many employers sent their workers home early that day, once they realized how heavy the snow was falling. That crush of traffic, particularly in Missouri's metro areas, clogged highways, interstates, and interchanges. It also brought MoDOT's snow-fighting efforts to a standstill. "Blowing snow and high winds make it very difficult for MoDOT crews to clear roads," said Wright.

"If there are no other vehicles on the roadways, we have a much better chance of making progress so traffic can get moving again.

" Should you attempt to travel during this storm, bring your mobile phone and winter survival supplies. If you do become stranded, stay with your vehicle and call 911. Be aware that emergency responders may have difficulty reaching you. Stay informed about Missouri road conditions by using MoDOT's Traveler Information Map, available online at www.modot.org, or through MoDOT's smartphone app, available for iPhone and Android phones. The map offers current views of road conditions for Missouri interstates and highways. You can zoom in to a particular location, check live weather radar, and view images from MoDOT's traffic cameras and message boards. MoDOT also provides road condition information through our Customer Service Center. Dial 888-ASK-MODOT (888-275-6636) to speak with a customer service representative 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

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