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# MoDOT Preparing for Winter Weather

DECEMBER 04TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

MoDOT Preparing for Winter Weather

*Submitted by  
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

**Southeast Missouri** - Missourians may see their first widespread winter event this week, as accumulating snow and ice are forecast for much of the state on Thursday and Friday.

The Missouri Department of Transportation is carefully monitoring weather forecasts and preparing to plow and treat state routes as needed. Travelers should also take their own precautions, as the first bout of snow or ice means motorists' winter driving skills may be a bit rusty.

Remember that even light precipitation can cause roads to become slick with ice or snow. While MoDOT works hard to treat and plow Missouri highways when winter weather hits, it's important to allow extra time for travel and to check road conditions before you head out. Remember the following tips when driving in inclement weather:

- \* Slow down
- \* Steer and brake gently
- \* Accelerate slowly at intersections
- \* Allow extra space between your vehicle and the one ahead of you

- \* Stay back 100 feet from snow plows that may be spreading salt
- \* Avoid passing snow plows, even when on a multi-lane road
- \* Be aware that bridges and overpasses generally experience freezing conditions first

One of the best ways to prepare for winter travel is to check road conditions before you go. MoDOT's Traveler Information Map, at [www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org), provides current road conditions for Missouri's interstates and major highways. Conditions for these routes are color coded to give you the information you need at a glance.

For smartphone and tablet users, the Traveler Information App brings the same information to mobile devices. The app is available for free from the iPhone and Android app stores by searching for "MoDOT."

MoDOT also provides road conditions information through our Customer Service Center. Dial 888-ASK-MODOT (888-275-6636) to speak to one of our expert customer service representatives. They are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

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# Winter Storm Watch Has Been Issued

DECEMBER 03RD 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Winter Storm Watch Has Been Issued

*Submitted by  
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

**Stoddard County, Missouri** - The National Weather Service in Paducah Kentucky has issued a Winter Storm Watch for the Quad State Region for Thursday Night and Friday. Travel across the area during that time will be hazardous at times.

Click on the following link to learn more about the timing and impacts of the upcoming Winter Storm on your area.

Click **HERE** for the National Weather Service website.

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# Special Weather Statement for Stoddard County

DECEMBER 03RD 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Special Weather Statement for Stoddard County

*Submitted by  
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

**Stoddard County, Missouri - ..... WINTER WEATHER IMPACTS LIKELY THURSDAY NIGHT THROUGH FRIDAY...**

ARCTIC AIR WILL SPREAD ACROSS THE REGION THURSDAY THROUGH FRIDAY IN THE WAKE OF A STRONG COLD FRONTAL PASSAGE WEDNESDAY NIGHT. MEANWHILE STRONG FLOW IN THE UPPER LEVELS OF THE ATMOSPHERE WILL CARRY DISTURBANCES FROM SOUTHWEST TO NORTHEAST ACROSS THE REGION. THE DISTURBANCES WILL GENERATE WINTRY PRECIPITATION IN THE COLD ARCTIC AIR.

THE PRECIPITATION SHOULD FIRST DEVELOP OVER SOUTHEAST MISSOURI INTO SOUTHERN ILLINOIS THURSDAY EVENING... THEN TOWARD THE OHIO RIVER AND POSSIBLY INTO FAR WEST KENTUCKY AND SOUTHWEST INDIANA LATER THURSDAY NIGHT. FREEZING RAIN AND SLEET APPEAR MOST LIKELY INITIALLY... POSSIBLY MIXING WITH SNOW BY FRIDAY MORNING OVER SOUTHERN ILLINOIS AND SOUTHEAST MISSOURI.

THE TRANSITION TO FREEZING RAIN... SLEET... AND POSSIBLY SOME SNOW... WILL CONTINUE TO EXPAND EAST FRIDAY OVER THE REMAINDER OF WEST KENTUCKY AND SOUTHWEST INDIANA AS ANOTHER WAVE OF PRECIPITATION MOVES ACROSS THE REGION. HIGHEST PRECIPITATION AMOUNTS FRIDAY SHOULD BE ALONG AND SOUTH AND EAST OF THE OHIO RIVER.

THIS IS A COMPLEX FORECAST WITH MANY VARIABLES IN PLAY. IT IS STILL TOO SOON TO FORECAST SPECIFIC AMOUNTS OF SNOW AND ICE

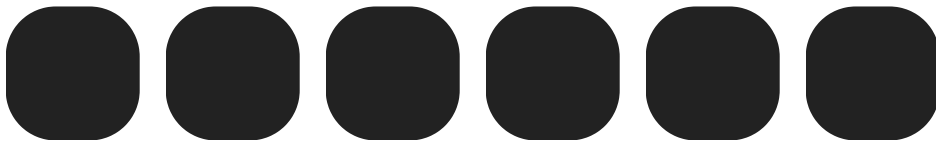
AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER... GIVEN THE AMOUNT OF PRECIPITATION THAT IS BEING FORECAST IN OUR MODEL DATA... THE POTENTIAL DOES EXIST FOR MODERATE ACCUMULATIONS OF ICE OR SLEET... AND SOME SNOW... THAT COULD HAVE CONSIDERABLE IMPACTS ACROSS PORTIONS OF THE AREA.

For the latest click **HERE**.

LAST UPDATED ON DECEMBER 03RD 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

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## Winter Weather on the Way?

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DECEMBER 01ST 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

*Submitted by  
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

**Stoddard County, Missouri** - The US Weather Service out of Paducah, Kentucky issuing some concerns about Winter Weather possible later in the week. At 4:17 PM CST  
SUN DEC 1 2013

A Special Weather Statement and a Hazardous Weather Outlook Statement have been issued.

...WINTER WEATHER IMPACTS POSSIBLE LATER THIS WEEK...

FORECAST MODELS SEEM TO BE CONVERGING ON A SIGNAL THAT COULD POSSIBLY BRING A WINTRY MIX OF PRECIPITATION THURSDAY NIGHT AND FRIDAY.

VERY COLD...CANADIAN AIR IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE THURSDAY

BEHIND A STRONG COLD FRONT. AS THIS DOME OF COLD AIR SETTLES IN...MOISTURE FROM THE SOUTHWEST WILL CONTINUE TO STREAM IN ALOFT. THIS COULD SET THE STAGE FOR A PROLONGED PRECIPITATION EVENT OVER PORTIONS OF THE REGION THURSDAY NIGHT AND FRIDAY. THE PRECIPITATION WILL START OUT AS ALL RAIN WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE FRONT THURSDAY...BUT COULD TRANSITION OVER TO FREEZING RAIN...SLEET AND OR SNOW THURSDAY NIGHT OR ON FRIDAY.

IT IS WAY TOO EARLY TO SPECULATE ON SPECIFIC AMOUNTS OF WINTER PRECIPITATION...AS THE SYSTEM IS STILL ABOUT FOUR DAYS AWAY. THE TIMING OF THE COLD AIR AND THE LOCATION OF THE HIGHEST PRECIPITATION AMOUNTS REMAIN UNCERTAIN. HOWEVER...CONFIDENCE IS INCREASING THAT SOME TYPE OF WINTER WEATHER EVENT WILL OCCUR IN OR CLOSE TO OUR FORECAST AREA LATER IN THE WEEK.

For the latest click **HERE**.

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# Occupant Protection Enforcement November 25th

NOVEMBER 25TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Occupant Protection Enforcement November 25th](#)

*Submitted by  
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Editor*

**Missouri** - Seat belts save lives. A recent survey of Missouri motorists show that more Missourians are getting the message. However, statewide seat belt usage remains stagnant 79 percent for the general public and increased just one percent among teenagers from 66 to 67 percent. The nationwide average is 85 percent.

**Law enforcement agencies statewide will be participating in a quarterly Occupant Protection Enforcement on Nov. 25** to increase seat belt use and reduce highway fatalities. Law enforcement will take a zero tolerance approach in the enforcement of seat belt and child restraint laws during this campaign.

"Saving lives is what it's all about, and seat belts are such an easy way to prevent tragedy, suffering, and grief associated with disabling or fatal traffic crashes," said Leanna Depue, chair of the executive committee of the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety. "This type of campaign and enforcement effort is just one method used to heighten awareness about the importance of wearing a seat belt."

Other strategies used to increase Missouri seat belt use include using portable message boards to post messages about fatalities and seat belt citations; partnering with high schools and large employers to get them to adopt seat belt policies; assisting cities in passing a primary seat belt ordinance within their city limits; and providing incentives to positively reinforce wearing a seat belt.

As of November 17, of the 668 fatalities in Missouri this year, 62 percent of those killed were unrestrained.

LAST UPDATED ON NOVEMBER 25TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

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