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Governor

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**NMDOT Is Ready for Winter Weather**

**Santa Fe, NM** – Today, the New Mexico Department of Transportation announced that crews are ready to clear the roads and highways as the state prepares for the winter weather season. Last year, NMDOT crews removed snow and ice from over a million pass miles.

“Safety is absolutely our number one priority,” said NMDOT Secretary Tom Church. “Our crews and equipment across the state are ready to respond to winter weather. When driving in ice and snow please take every precaution necessary to keep yourself and others on the road safe.”

For months, crews across the state have been preparing their salt and sand spreaders, graders, and snow plows. The teams are also constantly monitoring weather reports and ready to respond as soon as they are called.

Throughout the state NMDOT has 116 graders, 258 front end loaders, 11 snow blower trucks, and 556 dump trucks with plows and salt spreaders.

Motorists should check [www.nmroads.com](http://www.nmroads.com) or download the NMRoads app for updates on road conditions and closures. NMRoads is updated around the clock and linked to the 511 road condition hotline.

Please remember these safe winter driving tips:

- Wear your seatbelt.
- Slow down and leave extra space between your vehicle and the one in front of you.
- Use brakes carefully and remember that it takes more time and distance to stop in adverse conditions.
- Don't crowd the snow plow. Please be patient and give the driver plenty of room to do the job.
- Use extra caution on bridges, ramps, overpasses, and shaded areas since they are likely to freeze first and stay frozen the longest.

“Be smart if you get behind the wheel during winter weather conditions,” said Deputy Secretary Anthony Lujan. “Remember to check NMRoads and stay alert. We want everyone to get to their destination safely.”

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