



TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

November 12, 2009
3:30 p.m.

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VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CURRENT ROADWAY CONDITIONS

SUFFOLK – The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) encourages motorists to avoid driving if at all possible. If driving is a necessity, motorists should use extreme caution.

VDOT reports the following conditions at area bridges and tunnels:

Route 17	Coleman Bridge	Open North and South	No restrictions
I-264	Downtown Tunnel/Berkley Bridge	Open East and West	No restrictions
I-64	Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel	Open East and West	No restrictions
I-64	High Rise Bridge	Open East and West	No restrictions
I-664	Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel	Open East and West	No restrictions
Route 17	James River Bridge	CLOSED North and South	CLOSED
Route 58	Midtown Tunnel	CLOSED East and West	CLOSED
Route 31	Jamestown Scotland Ferry	SUSPENDED SERVICE	CLOSED

The Midtown Tunnel will remain closed through the evening rush hour and through the night in anticipation of unusually high tides in the area surrounding the Tunnel. Motorists should use the Downtown Tunnel as an alternate Route.

The Route 17 James River Bridge will remain closed through the evening rush hour as tide waters on the Isle of Wight side of the bridge have not receded to a safe level. An alternate route is the I-664 Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel.

Jamestown Scotland Ferry service will remain suspended through the evening rush hour and through tomorrow morning. Due to unusually high tides, the ferry landing gear can not be safely mounted for automobile boarding. Motorists can use the following route:

Route 5 West to the Judith Stewart Dresser Memorial Bridge in James City and Charles City Counties to Route 106/156 South. Take the Benjamin Harrison Bridge to Route 10 East to Surry.

Crews anticipate closing Route 175 in Accomac County at 3:30 p.m. due to flooding caused by high tides. This will close off access to the Chincoteague Causeway.

Motorists in low lying and rural areas should use extreme caution and heed flood warnings for their area. Most flood fatalities occur when motorists try to drive through standing water that is deeper than it appears.

Access to the interstates is limited in many areas due to flooding on city streets. The following interstate ramps are inaccessible:

264 EB to Frederick
264 EB to Effingham
264 EB to Tidewater Dr
264 WB to Frederick
264 WB to City Hall
264 WB to Brambleton
664 SB to Terminal Ave

VDOT will continue to monitor roadway conditions throughout the evening and into the night as crews have been placed on a 12-hour rotation schedule.

Safety of the traveling public and the security of our facilities is our primary concern. If water levels rise, we will need to re-evaluate the need to close the tunnels if the tide levels threaten critical facilities.

Motorists are encouraged to visit www.va511.org , call 511 or listen to Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) 610 AM or call the Traffic Information Line at 757-361-3016 for current traffic and travel information.

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