

News Release

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MnDOT reopens eastbound I-90 between Highway 52 south of Rochester and Albert Lea, westbound I-90 remains closed between Highway 52 and Dexter due to snow drifts and icy conditions

ROCHESTER, Minn. (9:30 p.m.) – The Minnesota Department of Transportation has reopened eastbound Interstate 90 between Albert Lea and Highway 52 south of Rochester and Albert Lea, however westbound I-90 remains closed between Highway 52 and Dexter due to snow drifts and icy conditions.

Motorists traveling on I-90, as well as many roadways in southeast Minnesota, should expect to use caution and reduce speeds due to rough and icy road conditions. Motorists should plan for significantly longer travel times until all roads are clear of snow.

Road openings will appear on MnDOT's road conditions map at www.511mn.org, via news release, Twitter and Facebook. More roads are expected to open Tuesday, but much depends on the equipment and progress of removing vehicles that were stuck on the roads.

MnDOT snowplow operators will do their part to make highways safe and motorists should remember to:

- **Stay alert** for snowplows, which turn or exit frequently and often with little warning. They also may travel over centerlines or partially in traffic to further improve road conditions.
- **Stay back** at least 10 car lengths behind the plow. Don't drive into a snow cloud.
- **Slow down** to a safe speed for current conditions.
- **Turn on your headlights and wear your seat belt.**
- **Turn off the cruise control.**
- **Be patient** and remember snowplows are working to improve road conditions for your trip.
- **Don't drive distracted.**
- **Check MnDOT's road conditions map at www.511mn.org**

For additional tips on safe winter driving, go to <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/workzone/winter.html>.

In southeast Minnesota there are 101 snowplows that work the state highways in the 11-county MnDOT District 6 plowing 3,774 lane miles. During winter weather events, MnDOT routinely deploys two shifts of drivers in the snowplows, who can keep the snowplowing effort going around the clock by working 12-hour shifts.

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