



The Delaware River and Bay Authority

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Delaware River and Bay Authority Prepared for Winter Weather Conditions On Bridges, Ferries and at Airports

(New Castle, DE) – Today, Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) officials announced that plans to deal with winter weather are in place, with equipment at the ready, supplies stockpiled and trained personnel poised to clear roads of ice and snow.

“DRBA crews are ready to help provide clear travel corridors this winter, whether on I-295 at the Delaware Memorial Bridge, at the Cape May - Lewes Ferry, or at any of our five airport facilities,” said Joseph J. Gibbons, PE, Director of Maintenance for the DRBA. “Inclement winter weather can create hazardous driving conditions, so I urge all motorists to use good judgment when traveling on snow-covered or icy roads.” Gibbons added that drivers should obey variable posted speed limits on the Delaware Memorial Bridge during weather events, increase following distances for gradual braking and allow for extra traveling time to ensure everyone on area highways and bridges safely reach their final destinations.

Gibbons added that for safety considerations motorists should never pass a tandem snow plowing operation and to maintain a following distance of at least 200 feet of any snow plowing operation.

DRBA is ready to deploy multiple heavy plow truck units to clear snow and spread salt on the Delaware Memorial Bridge Twins Spans and its approach highways in Delaware and New Jersey. The Authority is also responsible for maintaining the approach roads to the Cape May – Lewes Ferry as well as taxiways, runways and parking lots at five regional airports in New Jersey and Delaware. The Authority employs 30 snowing plowing units, including 20 heavy duty snow removal units throughout its sphere of operations.

“The Authority has dedicated employees who are prepared to work 24/7 to make sure our bridges, highways, and airport facilities are ready for our customers during inclement weather,” Gibbons said. The Authority pre-schedules its employee crews to plow snow and spread material. Teams operate in multiple shifts so snow removal coverage remains continuous until the weather event subsides.

Current stockpiles include:

- ◆ 1,200 tons of salt
- ◆ 300 tons of low-temperature reactive salt
- ◆ 3,500 gallons of liquid runway treatment
- ◆ 8 tons of dry runway treatment

-more-

The DRBA management team analyzes each winter event to determine the proper material and rates of application for maximum effectiveness on our bridges and roadways. Team meetings are held prior to and during each event to plan for the upcoming weather and to quickly adapt to any changes in the forecast. During last winter's onslaught, the Authority expended nearly 3,000 tons of road salt.

Motorists are reminded that it is the law in New Jersey and Delaware that drivers make all reasonable efforts to remove snow or ice from their vehicle, including the roof, hood, trunk and windshield. In the case of a truck, the law applies to the cab, the top of a trailer or semi-trailer being drawn by a motor vehicle, and the top of an intermodal freight container. Drivers who fail to comply with the law face significant fines.

For updates on Delaware Memorial Bridge conditions, motorists are urged to follow us on Twitter @demembridge. For the Cape May – Lewes Ferry and Wilmington-Philadelphia Regional Airport, customers and travelers can also access information on Twitter @cmlferry and @flywilmilg respectively.

About the Delaware River and Bay Authority

The DRBA, a bi-state governmental agency created by Compact in 1962, owns and operates the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May- Lewes Ferry, and the Delaware City – Salem Ferry Crossing. The DRBA also manages corporate and aviation properties through its economic development powers - two airports in New Jersey (Millville Airport and Cape May Airport) and three in Delaware (New Castle Airport, Civil Air Terminal and Delaware Airpark). All DRBA operating revenues are generated through the bridge, ferry and airport facilities. For more information, visit www.drba.net.