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Winter Weather Will Create Driving Challenges – Drivers Urged To Use Caution

MONTPELIER, Vt.—December 23, 2014— The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTTrans) and Vermont State Police (VSP) remind motorists to exercise extra caution when travelling this holiday season. A weather forecast that includes a wide variety of conditions and precipitation from snow and freezing rain to just rain is an ideal mix for many types of road hazards. Freezing and thawing road surfaces can transition from wet to black ice in a matter of seconds and a drivers best defense is to stay alert, manage their speed and respond to advisory signs and reports.

“The 250 trucks of the VTTrans fleet will be fully deployed, and motorists need to do their part,” said VTTrans Chief Engineer Rich Tetreault. “Even in situations where ice-related crashes have occurred, drivers continue to pass through the area at excessive speeds resulting in additional crashes.”

“We’ve made great strides saving lives through enforcement, education, engineering safer roads and an improved ability to render medical aid immediately following a crash,” remarked Lt. Garry Scott, Vermont State Police Traffic Safety Commander. “We have to work harder and more effectively in driving towards zero deaths on Vermont roadways.”

A well-rested, clear headed driver is in a much better position to respond to varying road conditions. Lt. Scott asks, “that Vermonters take *care* this Holiday week and slow down, designate a sober driver, and buckle up for your safety; and for the safety of everyone on the roads.”