

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
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AHTD TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS ON ROAD DAMAGE

LITTLE ROCK (4-8) -- The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) will be conducting public meetings in Morrilton, Quitman, and Searcy to discuss the deteriorating condition of some highways in the area and to discuss options to address the situation.

In January, the AHTD announced plans to reduce the legal weight limit allowed on sections of 13 different highways in Cleburne, Conway, Faulkner, Independence, Van Buren, and White Counties. A total of 133 miles were to be affected by the new restrictions. Eight of the 13 sections would see the legal limit reduced from 80,000 pounds to 73,280 pounds, while the remaining five sections would see a reduction to 64,000 pounds.

The new limits were to go into effect on February 14, 2011. However, the AHTD agreed to delay the implementation until meetings could be held to discuss the highway damage and new weight restrictions.

Meetings are scheduled as follows:

Monday, April 18, 2011

6:30 p.m. University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton
Business Technology Center – Koontz Room
Morrilton, AR

Tuesday, April 19, 2011

6:30 p.m. Quitman Schools Cafeteria
6275 Heber Springs Rd. West (Highway 25)

Thursday, April 21, 2011

6:30 p.m. Carmichael Community Center
801 S. Elm
Searcy, AR

Citizens in the impacted area are encouraged to attend, as well as government, business, and industry representatives. At each meeting, AHTD personnel will provide a brief presentation on highway conditions in the area, followed by comments and questions from the audience.

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