



INFORMATION RELEASE

Contact:
Danny Straessle/David Nilles

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Crews Clearing Trees Along Interstate 30 In Nevada and Clark Counties

LITTLE ROCK (6-17) – As part of an Interstate Rehabilitation project on Interstate 30 between Emmett and Gurdon, crews are clearing a portion of the trees and vegetation along the sides and median of the Interstate, according to Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) officials.

The clearing provides safety and environmental benefits along the roadway. Over the past 50-plus years, trees outside the mowed area have grown to a substantial size. These trees negatively impact roadways when they grow too close to the roadway, due to the roots migrating under the roadway subgrade. The expansive clay soils in this area are more susceptible to cracking and movement when tree roots are present. This results in cracking and deterioration of driving surfaces, especially along the shoulders. The selective clearing of the trees adjacent to traffic will help maintain the stability and smoothness of our Interstate for years to come.

Tree clearing provides other safety and environmental benefits as well such as: a wider clear zone for vehicles that lose control and depart the roadway; a reduced chance of trees falling across the roadway; improved clearing of snow or ice from the pavement after weather events, and more sunlight for roadside wildflower habitats that enhance beauty and benefit pollinators.

Traffic is being controlled with signage and traffic barrels. Drivers should exercise caution when approaching and traveling through all highway work zones. Additional travel information can be found at IDriveArkansas.com or ARDOT.gov. You can also follow us on Twitter [@myARDOT](https://twitter.com/myARDOT).

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