

kcConnections



A publication of MoDOT Kansas City District

Feb. 13-17, 2012

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KC District Calendar:

February 13, 2012: Holiday
President Lincoln's Birthday

February 14, 2012:
Cass County Stakeholders Meeting
1 to 2 p.m., Cass County Courthouse

Valentines Day

February 20, 2012: Holiday
President Washington's Birthday

February 22, 2012:
Management Team
9 to 11:30 a.m., Boardroom

February 23, 2012:
Route 69 SAS Bridge
Community Briefing
4 to 6 p.m., Lawson High School

February 28, 2012:
Paul Russ Retirement Party
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Lee's Summit Maintenance Facility

Snow Is a No-Go, but Black Ice, Freezing Fog Create Different Challenges

Milder temps enable early start on spring maintenance activities

Even though there has been an absence of snow this season, the winter events that have occurred have presented different challenges. "This winter it has been harder for forecasters to accurately predict whether or not a storm will happen," said District Maintenance Engineer Jesse Skinner. "We have had bigger changes in pavement temperatures from day to night. We've experienced condensation or 'sweating of the pavement' which, in turn, has created some black ice conditions." Freezing fog has also occurred.

The KC District on average uses about 30,000 tons of salt over a single winter

season — the equivalent of filling a 680-passenger cruise ship. That's a lot of salt; however, our district has used just 5,000 tons of salt due to this year's mild weather.

Skinner said this winters' weather events are staring out with warmer temperatures, wet pavement and precipitation in the form of rain. "When this occurs, pre-treating is not as effective," said Skinner.

On average, the KC District receives about 20 to 22 inches of snow in a season, but this year we've received just two. Despite the absence of snow, there have been 20 winter events that have prompted district crews to monitor

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In the past couple of years the KC District has seen more than its share of snow storms and blizzards with employees plowing snow 24 hours per day for what seemed like days on end. This year's snow events have been light in comparison. Events have included less snow, but more black ice and freezing fog.

Bolder 5-Year Direction Timeline

2012

- **January-March 2012:** SG 6-10 positions (technicians and support) filled competitively.
- **April-May 2012:** SG 1-5 positions (support) filled competitively.
- **December 31:** all facility, equipment and operational changes complete.

2013

- **March 31:** all employee reassignments, staff reductions complete.

Bolder 5-Year Direction Questions?

- Visit: wwwi/intranet/hr/
- E-mail: SalaryGrade6-10@modot.mo.gov
- E-mail: SalaryGrade1-5@modot.mo.gov
- Contact your KC District HR representative

Snow is a No-Go

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and/or treat roads for slick conditions. “We may not have been pushing snow, but the unpredictability of these events have required us to staff for winter operations,” said Skinner. As a district, we have used just 15 percent of our “normal” average in manpower (specific to a winter event), salt or materials, and equipment usage.

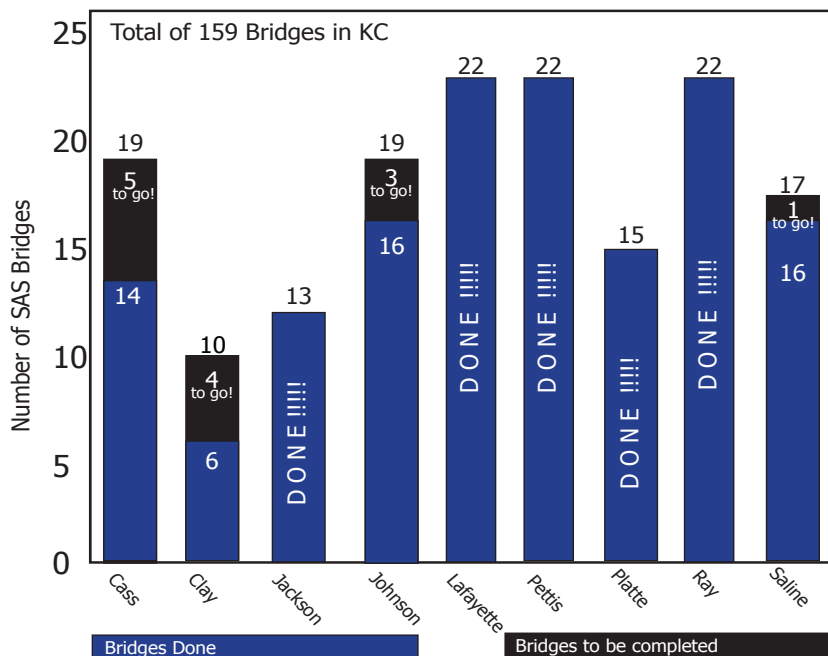
What else have our crews been up to during this rather mild winter season? Well, although our maintenance crews have not had to clear our roads and bridges of the white nuisance, they have not been basking in the sun aboard that 30,000-ton cruise ship either. In fact, many will see our MoDOT trucks with crews working along the roads filling potholes and maintaining the areas we would normally be plowing.

Other items that usually don’t see much attention until well into spring are also getting an early start. Culvert repairs on many of our rural routes are in full swing. Fencing and ditch work, replacing signs and litter control also topped the list. We have had an early start on items that typically kick off in spring. Mother Nature has been very polite this season, and we continue to take advantage of her generosity.



Maintenance crews have been taking advantage of milder temperatures to work on activities typically done when spring arrives, such as pothole repair, culvert replacement, litter control, among other activities.

KC Safe & Sound Bridges On the Rise to Completion



kcConnections sources

- Construction** Bev Chrisco, 607-2101
- Regional Counsel** LeAnn Francis, 607-2082
- Administration** Sherri McGregor, 607-2184
- General Services** Jody Jordan, 347-4100
- Human Resources** Amy Gagne, 607-2145
- Information Systems** JoAnn MacKay, 607-2096
- Right of Way** Dana O’Malley, 607-2056
- Traffic** Melanie Lanigan, 607-2171
- Editor** Kerri Lewis, 607-2151

Find MoDOT KC on Twitter, Facebook and Youtube.

Safety First - Burn Awareness

Feb. 5-11, 2012 was Burn Awareness Week, and the Shriners Hospitals for Children began its annual burn prevention campaign. This year's focus is on teaching children to "Be Burn Aware," especially at home.

The first step in helping to prevent children from being burned is to understand these common causes of burns:

- Scalds, the leading causes of burns from steam, hot bath water, tipped-over coffee cups, hot foods, cooking fluids, etc.
- Contact with flames or hot objects from the stove, fireplace, curling iron, etc.
- Chemical burns from swallowing things, like drain cleaner or watch batteries, or spilling chemicals, such as bleach, onto the skin.
- Electrical burns from biting on electrical cords or sticking fingers or objects in electrical outlets, etc.
- Overexposure to the sun.

Burns are categorized as first, second, or third degree, depending on how

badly the skin is damaged. Each of the injuries above can cause any of these three types of burns. But both the type of burn and its cause will determine how the burn is treated.

All burns should be treated quickly to reduce the temperature of the burned area and reduce damage to the skin and underlying tissue (if the burn is severe).

- Evaluate the burn. Call 911 or your local emergency medical system immediately if it is a third degree burn!
- Attempt to remove any clothing from the burned area. If the clothing sticks to the skin, do not attempt to remove it.
- Cool the burn area with cool water. Do not use cold water, it can cause shock.
- Lightly wrap the area with a gauze bandage.
- Do not apply any ointments, butter or other remedies on the burn.
- If blisters form, do not break them.



- Seek emergency medical help if:
- The burn is a third degree burn or covers a large area of the body.
- The burned area is caused from fire, electrical wire or chemicals.
- If the burns are to your face, hands, genitals.
- If the burn becomes infected or there are signs of swelling, pus, or red streaking of the skin away from the wound.

If you would like more information on preventing burns to children, contact Joe Jarboe, District Safety & Health Manager at 816.607.2048.

New Boots Available



Sid Boedecker is now offering a Muck Chore Steel Toe Work Boot for winter. Cost for a pair of boots is \$109.00 and will meet MoDOT safety requirements. Employees may use the annual allowance to purchase, or any employee may purchase out of pocket at the MoDOT price.

FOR ORDERS CALL: 913-599-6463 OR 800-544-9837

Employees can order Muck Boots from Sid Boedecker Safety Shoe Service

Boot Information:

- MUCK # CHS-000A HI, BLACK CHORE STEEL TOE WORK BOOT
- MoDOT Price \$109.99
- Steel Toe Meets ASTM F2413-05
- Steel Shank
- 100% Waterproof
- Available in whole sizes only
- Men's sizes: 5-14
- Women's sizes: 6-13 UNISEX

EAEC Corner: Meet the Newly Elected Officers

The KC Employee Advisory Extension Council (EAEC) has been active for more than three years and serves KC District employees. The council's goal is to foster and enhance a positive work environment for all employees by assisting management and employees with cultural diversity, policy review, and communication issues.

Take advantage of this avenue to stay informed about our district. You can contact the various members or submit a concern or question through the intranet or through a paper form that can be located in each work unit. All concerns are anonymous and confidential throughout the process.

The EAEC Corner introduces you to the newly elected Board members.

To learn more about the KC District EAEC on the intranet, visit our intranet at <http://wwwi/intranet/d4/District4EmployeeAdvisoryCouncil.htm>



From left to right: Dolon Silimon, Chair; Derek Anderson, Vice Chair; Matt Daulton, Secretary; Bob Ralston Asst. Secretary.

Ready To Join The Statewide EAC?

The EAC is still taking applications for the next term of members.

Applications will be accepted until March. If you would like to apply, visit to the statewide intranet.

The EAC looks forward to working with all employees to continue to make MoDOT a great place to work.

Save the DATE!!!!

The district has some great events in the near future, so mark your calendar with these important dates.

Friday, March 23

MoDOT Night with the MO Mavericks

March 26-28

**Intelligent Transportation Systems
Heartland Chapter Annual Meeting
Hosted by KC Scout**

Week of April 23-27

Work Zone Safety Awareness Week

Thursday, April 26

**Bring Your Child to Work Day
Big Truck Night**

Keep your eyes out for more information to come!