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High winds, precipitation could endanger travel conditions

Most severe weather anticipated in western and southern Wisconsin

Statewide Traffic Operations Center, Milwaukee, WI 53203, 414/227-2162 www.dot.wisconsin.gov

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) would like to remind motorists to be cautious if traveling in what could be hazardous conditions. Thunderstorms are anticipated to move through Wisconsin in a southeasterly direction, the most severe storms occurring from Eau Claire to Madison to Beloit.

The National Weather Service (NWS) is reporting a first round of storms Wednesday afternoon into Thursday evening and a second round in the overnight hours. As of Wednesday afternoon, portions of South Dakota and southern Minnesota experienced wind speeds of 70-80 mph.

Severe storms, damaging winds and possible tornadoes are expected to make driving very difficult. Slippery conditions and high winds can greatly impact travel, especially larger vehicles such as commercial truck traffic. This weather may cause brief flooding along with downed trees and power lines.

Motorists are encouraged to check National Weather Service forecasts at www.weather.gov and utilize 511 Wisconsin, the state's 24/7/365 travel information service, to view road conditions and receive up-to-date travel information prior to travel.

This information, along with live traffic cameras and traffic alerts, can be accessed on the 511 Wisconsin system, which includes a free smartphone app, @511WI on Twitter, visiting www.511wi.gov or calling 5-1-1. Always putting safety first, never access 511 information while driving.

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