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# News Release

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## Detroit Metro Airport Ready to Welcome Mid-Winter and Spring Break Travelers

*-- Airport provides tips for the busy travel season*

With more than 50 local school districts on mid-winter break beginning the end of this week, it's prime time for a getaway to somewhere warm and sunny. Spring break and the Easter holiday travel period will follow just a few weeks later.

"We expect the airport will be very busy over the next several weeks with families taking advantage of school holidays in addition to our usual business travelers," said Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson. "We encourage travelers to get their trip off to a good start by planning ahead and visiting the airport's website, [www.metroairport.com](http://www.metroairport.com), which is full of helpful information."

### TRAVEL TIPS

**TSA SimpliFLY PROGRAM:** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has launched a new program to help make travelers do their part to help make the airport security screening process as smooth as possible. Passengers are reminded that carry-on baggage is subject to the TSA **3-1-1** limitations: individual containers of liquids must be 3 oz or less (by volume) and all containers must fit inside 1 quart-sized, clear, plastic, zip-top bag. Passengers are limited to once such bag per person, and must remove the bag from their larger carry-on baggage and place in the bin for separate security screening. For more details, visit the TSA SimpliFLY Web site, <http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/simplifly.shtm>.

- **PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS:** As of January 23, 2007, all passengers (including children) traveling by air between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda are now required to present a valid passport for re-entry into the United States. Those travelers who do not have proper documentation will be subject to secondary screening by Customs and Border Protection officials and lengthy delays re-entering the country. For more information visit the Department of State's website at <http://travel.state.gov/travel>.
- **CELL PHONE WAITING LOTS:** Motorists picking up travelers are encouraged to utilize the airport's newly-expanded cell phone waiting lots. These lots provide a convenient

alternative to circling the airport waiting for their party to exit the terminals. Arriving passengers can contact their ride from their cell phone after they have claimed their bags and are ready for pick-up at the curb.

The new North cell phone waiting lot is located adjacent to the on-airport rental car facilities off East Service Drive near the intersection with Lucas Drive. To access the new lot, drivers approaching the airport from I-94 should follow signs to 'Rental Car Return', exiting at Middlebelt Road (exit 199) and then turning right onto Lucas Drive. Follow Lucas Drive until it ends at East Service Drive, and turn left – the lot entrance will then be on the right.

The new South cell phone waiting lot is located on the south side of Eureka Road between I-275 and the airport entrance ramp. The lot is clearly marked and easily accessible from both east and westbound Eureka Rd.

Maps for both cell phone waiting areas can be found on the airport's website, [www.metroairport.com](http://www.metroairport.com).

- **CONFIRM FLIGHT SCHEDULES FIRST:** Passengers should check with their airline's Web site or through their reservation phone line to confirm their flight schedule. Passengers can also save time at the airport by utilizing online check-in, available on most airline Web sites.
- **ARRIVE EARLY:** With parking lots, roadways and terminals expected to be busier than usual during the mid-winter and spring break periods, plan on arriving at DTW at **least one and a half to two hours before scheduled departure time** to allow ample time for parking, check-in/bag check and passenger screening.
- **PARKING TIPS:** Airport management is recommending that travelers call the airport's 24-hour parking hotline (800-642-1978) just before arrival at the airport for the latest parking availability status at the airport.
- **QUICK LOADING AND UNLOADING:** Motorists are not allowed to idle at terminal curb fronts. Terminal curb fronts are open, but are reserved for **active loading and unloading of passengers only**. Unattended vehicles at the curb fronts are prohibited, and may be ticketed and towed. The airport encourages motorists waiting for arriving passengers to take advantage of the newly-expanded cell phone waiting lots.
- **PASSENGER SCREENING CHECKPOINTS:** During peak times, passengers may experience longer-than-usual lines at the security checkpoints. **Only ticketed passengers** will be allowed through the TSA passenger screening checkpoints. Passengers 18 years of age and older should be prepared to present a valid photo ID (such as a driver's license or passport) at the checkpoints and ticket counters. Special arrangements for passenger assistance can be made through your airline—contact your carrier directly for more information.
- **BOARDING PASS:** Passengers must present their boarding pass prior to entering the passenger screening checkpoints. Passengers can print their boarding pass from home, at e-ticket kiosks at the airline ticket counters or at curbside check-in booths.

- **LUGGAGE:** Luggage ID tags should be filled out and placed on the inside and outside of bags before arrival to the airport. Placing identification on the inside of all luggage will increase the likelihood that lost bags are returned to their owners should exterior identification become detached. Passengers are allowed one carry-on bag, plus a purse or briefcase. Remember to pack valuables such as jewelry, cameras, medication, passports, and money in carry-on luggage. All carry-on luggage is subject to search at the passenger screening checkpoints and at all times after passing through security.

Items that can be construed as weapons such as scissors, knives or small pocketknives, razor blades and needles are prohibited beyond passenger screening checkpoints and may cause further delays. **Travelers with supplies for medical conditions should be prepared to justify need for such items with a prescription and/or letter from their physician.** For more details regarding prohibited items and visit the Transportation Security Administration website at [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov).

**Some airlines have begun to charge passengers for checked luggage weighing more than 50 lbs.** Pack smart and check with your airline for their specific checked luggage size and weight restrictions.

**Lock checked luggage with a TSA “accepted and recognized” lock:** In some cases, screeners may need to open your luggage as part of the screening process. An accepted and recognized lock can be opened by TSA without causing damage. For details, visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) and type “recognized locks” into the search box. If the TSA does search a bag, a notification will be inserted into the bag.

Do not leave luggage unattended and for easy identification, tie a bright ribbon around the handle of the luggage. Remove hooks, straps and removable wheels before checking luggage to avoid damage to your bags.

- **FILM: Pack Film in Carry-On Luggage.** The TSA recommends that passengers pack undeveloped film in carry-on luggage. Newer equipment used to screen checked luggage may damage undeveloped film. The X-ray machine at the passenger screening checkpoints will not affect undeveloped film under ASA/ISO 800. However, multiple X-ray inspections (more than 5 times) of the same roll of undeveloped film may cause damage. The machines used to screen your checked luggage or carry-on items will not affect digital camera images or film that has already been processed, slides, photo compact discs, or picture discs. Travelers can request a hand-inspection of any undeveloped film at the passenger screening checkpoints. For more information visit [www.tsa.gov](http://www.tsa.gov) and type “film” into the search box.
- **LEAVE GIFTS UNWRAPPED:** Wrapped gifts may be opened by security, causing delays at the checkpoint. If you are traveling with any gifts, plan on wrapping them after you arrive at your destination.
- **MEETERS & GREETERS:** Since only ticketed passengers are permitted beyond passenger screening checkpoints, meeters and greeters are encouraged to identify a meeting place beforehand with their arriving party, such as the arriving passenger’s baggage claim.

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