

**PRESS RELEASE**

November 8, 2005

Contact: Public Affairs Office: 703-417-8370

Airports Authority Encourages Thanksgiving Travelers to be Prepared

Be Aware of New TSA Liquid and Gel Rules

Thanksgiving travel this year at Ronald Reagan Washington National and Washington Dulles International Airports is expected to be heavy during peak travel times.

"We expect that large crowds will be in our terminals this holiday season and we want our customers to be prepared for this busy period. We anticipate the holiday rush will start November 17th and continue through November 28th. We advise travelers to come early and to visit our website at www.mwaa.com," said Airports Authority President and Chief Executive Officer James E. Bennett.

The Airports Authority offers these travel tips:

Call In Before Check-In: Call your airline's 800 number or visit the airline website to confirm your flight or to verify security regulations related to checked baggage. If possible, print your boarding pass at home or work. Weather can greatly affect flight schedules. You may also check the Airports Authority website at www.mwaa.com for airport information. **ARRIVE EARLY:** Travelers are urged to arrive at the airport at least 2 to 2 1/2 hours before domestic flights and 3 hours before international flights to allow enough time for ground transportation, parking, luggage check-in and security screening. This is critical during the busy times, which are early in the morning, mid-afternoon and late afternoon, particularly during the period between November 17-28. Flights will be booked and it will be difficult to get to your destination if you miss your flight.

PARKING at Reagan National

Parking lots and garages will fill up the **week before** Thanksgiving at Reagan National. Travelers who drive and park should visit the Airports Authority website www.mwaa.com for real-time information on parking availability or call 703-417-PARK (7275).

Take Metro: Travelers using Reagan National Airport find Metro a good alternative to driving. The Airports Authority also encourages Dulles passengers to consider taking Metro to the West Falls Church Station and connecting to the Washington Flyer Bus to Dulles.

Cell Phone Waiting Areas are now open at both Reagan National and Dulles International -- An easy way to pick up a traveler. Wait in the cell phone area until your party arrives and is ready to be met at the curb. Look for the signs directing you to the areas where you may wait up to 1 hour for free.

- more -

PARKING at Dulles International

Dulles will have sufficient parking for the holiday, with 25,000 spaces, but favorite spots may be taken so it's wise to come early. For parking information at Dulles, please call 703-572-4500 or visit www.mwaa.com/dulles.

PAY & GO is available at Dulles to avoid lines at the parking exits. Drivers who park at Dulles Airport should take their parking ticket with them and use the Pay & Go Machines as they exit the Terminal building. Pay & Go Machines are located in the lower level of the Terminal near the east and west exit doors. Once the ticket is paid at the Pay & Go machine in the Terminal, drivers exit at the Pay & Go lanes with the paid ticket without having to stop at the cashier booth.

GETTING TO THE AIRPORTS

Try the Washington Flyer Bus Service, Washington Flyer Taxi, or Super Shuttle Service. For information about Washington Flyer express bus service from the Metro West Falls Church Station to Dulles Airport, please call 703-685-1400 or 1-888-WASHFLY or www.washfly.com. For Washington Flyer Taxi service, please call 703-661-6655 to place a reservation. In addition, Super Shuttle provides door-to-door shared-ride service to the airports. Call 1-800-BLUEVAN.

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE TICKET COUNTER

Make sure the security screeners can open your suitcase. Place **i.d. tags** on the inside and outside of your checked baggage and have a **government-issued photo identification** for all passengers over age 18. Consider printing your boarding pass at home or work before coming to the airport or use the **airline ticket kiosk**. If you have an e-ticket, be sure to have a **boarding pass BEFORE** you leave the ticketing area and keep it handy to show at the security checkpoints.

BEFORE YOU GO TO THE SECURITY CHECKPOINT

BAG THOSE LIQUIDS AND GELS. Remember these numbers: 3-1-1. Only liquids or gels that are no more than 3 ounces are permitted in carry on luggage. You must put them in a clear and sealed plastic bag that is no larger than 1 quart and put only 1 bag per passenger in the bins at the checkpoint for inspection. Check www.tsa.gov for a complete list. **Leave gifts unwrapped.** They may be opened for inspection.

Avoid wearing clothing, jewelry, and accessories that contain metal and may set off the alarm at screening checkpoints. **You must remove your shoes.** The Airports Authority provides complimentary booties near the checkpoints. Put cameras and undeveloped film in your carry-on baggage. Checked baggage screening equipment will damage some undeveloped film. Carry-on baggage is limited to one carry-on bag plus one personal item. Personal items include laptops, purses, small backpacks, briefcases, or camera cases. **Place identification tags inside and outside of all of your baggage.** Don't forget your laptop computer; be sure to put an i.d. label on the computer itself and the carrying case.

Travel wisely: Carry medicine, cash, jewelry and other important valuables with you on the plane. If you leave your car at the airport, remove any valuables. Carry your purse and wallet securely, and keep your luggage and carry-on items in your sight at all times. Under security procedures, unattended bags and other items will be confiscated and may be destroyed.

For more information about Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, call 703-417-8000. For more information about Washington Dulles International Airport, call 703-572-2700. For information about both Airports, visit the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's website at www.mwaa.com.