



# TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

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## **BLASTING OPERATIONS ON I-81 MAY CAUSE MINOR DELAYS IN ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY**

**STAUNTON** – Blasting operations at the Interstate 81 truck climbing lane project in Rockbridge County are scheduled to begin on July 15. The work zone is along the northbound lanes from mile marker 195.6 to 202.5, which is just north of Lexington.

The blasting operations will take place approximately two days a week between the hours of noon and 2 p.m. Monday to Friday. Blasting days will change weekly depending on project progress. Both northbound and southbound lanes will have a rolling mobile lane closure. Traffic will be slowed down so the blast area is clear of traffic during the actual blast period. Traffic will immediately resume through the area once conditions are deemed safe by crews at the site. Blasting operations are estimated to continue through November.

The July 15 blasting operations will take place at 1 p.m. in the vicinity of the Route 712 bridge.

The I-81 truck climbing lane project valued at \$74.2 million was awarded by Commonwealth Transportation Board on Feb. 5, 2009 to W. C. English Inc. of Lynchburg. Completion is scheduled for fall 2012.

The VDOT Staunton District serves Frederick, Shenandoah, Clarke, Warren, Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Highland, Rockbridge, Alleghany and Bath counties.

Traffic alerts and traveler information can be obtained by dialing 511. In areas where 511 is unavailable, dial 1-866-MY511VA (866-695-1182) (TTY/TDD users, call 711). Traffic alerts and traveler information also are available at [511Virginia.org](http://511Virginia.org).

Highway safety is everyone's responsibility. Virginia's highway safety partnership — the Virginia Department of Transportation, Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles and Virginia State Police — challenges you to help prevent highway fatalities. Buckle up. Avoid distractions. Share the road. Drive drug- and alcohol-free. Obey speed limits. For more information on the Highway Safety Challenge and things you can do to avoid becoming Virginia's next traffic fatality, visit [www.safeVAhighways.org](http://www.safeVAhighways.org).

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