



DETROIT METRO • WILLOW RUN
WAYNE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

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News Release

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Airport Celebrates the Holidays with Annual Music Program *~Last minute Shopping, Super Bowl Merchandise, and Travel Tips*

DECEMBER 15, 2005, DETROIT, MI – Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) is expected to be busy between now and January 3 as Christmas approaches and schools and businesses close for the holiday. However, departing local passenger traffic is not expected to be as heavy as in years past.

The busiest travel days are expected to be Friday, December 16, December 21 – 23, December 26, 27 and January 2 and 3.

This is what passengers can expect to see and hear at DTW:

It's Holiday Music to the Ears

Sixteen area groups of musicians and local schools will perform at various times throughout the week leading up to Christmas to spread cheer throughout both the Smith and McNamara Terminals. This is the Airports 15th Annual Holiday Music Program. (SEE ATTACHED SCHEDULE)

Last minute Shopping...at the Airport?

Referenced in *USA Today* and *Executive Travel* magazine as a great place to “spend time and money,” the McNamara Terminal is offers anything from books, to a massage, or even a gift for your pet. The Terminal features over 80 shops and restaurants.

Super Bowl XL Merchandise Available at Detroit Metro Airport

Super Bowl XL merchandise is available at numerous retail locations inside the Smith and McNamara Terminals. Travelers will be able to find a full line of Super Bowl XL memorabilia, including shirts, ball caps, and many other items that may be on a sports fan's wish list – or someone who wants to own a piece of history.

\$6 / Day Parking in Metro's Big Blue Deck

On-airport parking deals include \$6 / day parking in over 5,000 designated spaces in the

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airport's Big Blue Deck. While parking in the Blue Deck is most convenient for travelers flying out of the L.C. Smith Terminal, the Yellow lot is walking distance from the Berry Terminal – with a cost of just \$7 / day; and the Green Lot will be open for a flat rate of \$10 / day. Free shuttle bus service is available to and from any terminal.

Meeters & Greeters: Park Short-Term

Short-Term Parking is ideal for brief visits, and the airport recommends meeters and greeters park short-term, and meet travelers in the luggage claim areas, instead of waiting at the curb fronts. Short-Term parking is \$3 for the first 30 minutes, \$5 for the first hour, \$7 for two hours, and \$3 for each additional hour. Curb fronts become very congested, especially during the holidays, and motorists are reminded that due to security concerns, no curb front waiting is permitted, and this policy will be strictly enforced by airport police. Curb fronts are intended for active loading and unloading only.

New Concourse and New Concessions just in Time for the Holidays

Northwest Airlines (NWA) recently opened 19 new gates on a completely rebuilt C concourse in the McNamara Terminal ahead of schedule. The concourse features high-glass curtain walls for an open and airy atmosphere and includes six sets of new restrooms, seven elevators, five sets of moving walkways, four family restrooms, two sets of escalators and two ATM's. The gates are used by NWA commuter partners Mesaba and Pinnacle Airlines flying as Northwest AirlinK.

Along with a new concourse, a wide variety of new concessions are available to help satisfy traveler needs. The additional concessions include a Coffee Beanery / Vito's Market / CNN NewslinK – a 'one stop shop' for coffee, a sandwich and something to read. Also available in C concourse is Fuddrucker's (specialty hamburgers), Detroit Metro 500 (race-car themed bar), Everything ASAP (over-the-counter medicines) and The Martini Lounge (hor d'oeuvres and martinis).

Last month, the Airport Authority added something meeters and greeters have been asking for – a coffee shop with snacks - in the McNamara Terminal domestic luggage claim. Caribou Coffee serves a wide variety of coffee drinks and pastries.

The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) recently ranked the airport second among fourteen of the country's busiest airports for its variety of healthy food options for the second year in a row. Airports were ranked based on percentage of their restaurants that offered at least one low-fat, high-fiber or vegetarian entrée in their menus.

For additional information travelers can also visit www.metroairport.com or call (734)AIRPORT – (734)247-7678, during normal business hours.

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Employees of the Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) realize that there are many families in our community who will have no packages to open Christmas morning. Embracing the spirit of the holiday, many WCAA employees have teamed up to adopt Salvation Army families by purchasing gifts for children and adults currently experiencing tough times. Others have participated in charitable endeavors, such as Goodfellows and Silverliners.

(SEE ATTACHED PAGES FOR ADDITIONAL TRAVEL TIPS)

TRAVEL TIPS FOR DETROIT METROPOLITAN WAYNE COUNTY AIRPORT

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

- Visit www.metroairport.com
 - Roadway maps
 - Terminal maps
 - Shops and restaurants
 - Flight information
 - Links to airlines
 - Airlines by terminals
 - Driving directions
 - Parking information
 - Ground transportation/rental cars
 - Lost & found
 - Construction on I-94 link
 - ATM's/vending machines/currency exchanges/etc.

- Visit www.tsa.gov or www.tsatraveltips.us
 - Permitted Items
 - Prohibited Items
 - Key Travel Tips
 - Preparation before you arrive at the airport
 - Transporting Special Items
 - Traveling with Children
 - Special Considerations
 - Persons with Disabilities & Medical Conditions
 - Security Awareness
 - FAQ's

OTHER IMPORTANT TRAVEL TIPS

- **CONFIRM FLIGHT SCHEDULES FIRST:** Passengers should check with their airline reservation centers on the web or through their airline toll free phone lines to confirm flight schedules. Airline "800" numbers and website links are available on the airport's website at www.metroairport.com.

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- **ARRIVE EARLY:** Recommend 1½ hours
- **PARKING:** Call the airport's 24-hour parking hotline (**800-642-1978**) to determine parking status. The hotline is staffed round-the-clock by Motor City Central Parking with up-to-the minute parking information (on-airport only).

The least expensive long-term, on-airport parking can currently be found in designated areas of the airport's Blue Deck, located across from the L.C. Smith Terminal. Parking in these discounted areas is \$6 /day. The Yellow Lot, across from the Berry Terminal has a flat daily rate of \$7. Economy parking at \$10 / day can still be found in the airport's Green lot, and other long-term, short-term and valet options are also available. Check www.metroairport.com for the most up-to-date parking rate information.

Visitor Parking (Short-term): Meeters & Greeters can use short term lots with hourly rates.

- **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 party. A suggested meeting place is the airline luggage claim areas.
- **STRICT CURBFRONT GREETING PROCEDURES:** Motorists are not allowed to idle at terminal curbside. Terminal curbside are open, but are reserved for **active loading and unloading of passengers only**. Unattended vehicles at the curbside are prohibited, and may be ticketed and towed. Instead park short-term and arrange to meet your party at airline luggage claim areas. Please be understanding in airport police enforcement of this policy.
- **CURBSIDE CHECK-IN:** Curbside check-in is operating for most airline carriers.
- **PASSENGER SCREENING CHECKPOINTS:** **Only ticketed passengers** will be allowed through the airline passenger screening checkpoints. Passengers 18 years of age and older should be prepared to present a valid, government-issued photo ID (such as a driver's license or passport) along with their ticket at the checkpoints and ticket counters. Special arrangements for passenger assistance can be made through the airlines.

Passengers must also obtain their boarding passes, prior to entering the passenger screening checkpoints. E-ticket vouchers, receipts, and itineraries are no longer accepted for entry. Passengers with e-tickets can obtain their boarding pass at the airline ticket counters, curbside check-in stations, or e-ticket kiosks. At the McNamara Terminal, Northwest Airlines provides e-ticket kiosks in the ticket lobby and on level 6 of the adjacent parking garage.

- The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has limited passengers to **one carry-on item, plus a purse or briefcase**. By minimizing carry-on luggage, travelers can reduce their time spent at passenger screening checkpoints and boarding aircraft.
- The list of permitted and prohibited items in carry-on and checked luggage is currently evolving. For more information, please contact www.tsa.gov or www.tsatraveltips.us for the most up-to-date list. ***Travelers with supplies for medical conditions should be prepared to justify need for such items with a prescription and/or letter from their physician.***

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- To speed-up the screening process, passengers are encouraged to:
 - Place all metal items in a carry-on bag while waiting in line
 - Take laptop computers out of their case
 - Take off coats/jackets

- Travelers are also encouraged to think about what they wear to the airport. Reduce the amount of metal objects worn on the body such as jewelry to avoid setting off alarms. Since many shoes contain metal shanks, passengers are also encouraged to remove their shoes at the passenger screening checkpoints.

- **LUGGAGE:** Luggage ID tags should be filled out, both on the inside and outside of bags, prior to check-in. Remember to pack valuables such as jewelry, cameras, undeveloped film, medication, passports, and money in carry-on luggage. All luggage is subject to search.

- **Luggage Should be Unlocked:** It may be necessary for TSA screeners to open your bag for inspection and a lock may be broken. There are now products on the market that have uniform locking systems that allow TSA to do required inspections of locked bags. Passengers may want to consider using plastic zip/cable ties, which can be easily removed in the event inspection is required.

- **Check your airline's web site for checked luggage weight restrictions.**
 - **Passengers Carrying Film:** The Transportation Security Administration recommends that passengers pack undeveloped film in carry-on luggage. Newer equipment used to screen checked luggage will 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. At the passenger screening checkpoints, travelers can request a hand-inspection of any undeveloped film. For more information visit www.tsa.gov or www.tsatraveltips.us.
 - **Wrapped gifts:** TSA may find it necessary to open wrapped gifts, causing disappointment for yourself and delaying other passengers. Plan on wrapping gifts after you arrive at your destination.
 - 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.

Visit www.metroairport.com or call [\(734\) AIRPORT](tel:734-AIRPORT), during regular business hours, for general airport information.

DATE	SMITH TERMINAL Ticket Lobby		MC NAMARA TERMINAL Water Feature on Concourse A		
	7:00 AM	5:00 PM	8:00 AM	11:00 AM	5:00 PM
Friday 12/16/05				Faith Christian 6	
Sunday 12/18/05					County Connection Chorus 19
Monday 12/19/05	Dusty Fiddles 2	Harmony 4 Fun 4	Violin Trio Group 4	Violin Trio Group 4	A la Carte (Musical Moments) 5
Tuesday 12/20/05		Airport High School 15			Churchill High School
Wednesday 12/21/05		Harmony 4 Fun 4		Churchill High School	Wayne Memorial High School 16
Thursday 12/22/05		Dusty Fiddles 2		Crestwood 27	A la Carte (Musical Moments) 6
Friday 12/23/05			Wayne Memorial High School 20		

****NOTE**** Areas blocked off in red are not available performance times

As of 12/15/05

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