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FROM THE EDITOR

By Michael Stone Email the author January 13, 2011

Opinion, The Neighborhood Files

The Snow Words We're Sick of Hearing

Flurries, road closures, snowpocalypse-you have all overstayed your welcome.

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What snow words or phrases are you sick of hearing? Tell us in the comments.

Anyone sick of hearing anything that even remotely correlates to snow, icy roads, school closures and the like? I know I am.

Whenever a decent amount of snow descends from the heavens, we begin to run through the motions: watch around-the-clock news programs; instinctively hoard bread, milk and eggs; say phrases like, "Wow, would you look at all that snow?"

It's almost as if we relearn everything that accompanies a snowfall as it's happening—including the words and phrases that rank in usage right behind the word "snow" itself.

Here's a list of some of those words and phrases, the ones that we've heard way too much the past few days and would like to hear no more.

Flurries (fluhr-eez) n. — The predecessor or aftermath of annoying blizzard-like snow. If we could point a space heater toward every one before they hit the ground, we would.

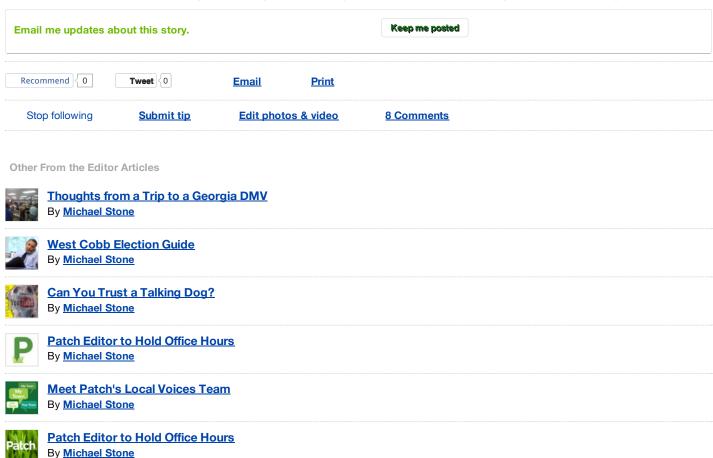
Cabin fever (kab-in fee-ver) n. — It's not so much that we hate being cooped up in our house with the same people and animals for three days; it's more so that we're annoyed with the snow footage the TV news has played over and over. But for whatever reason, we keep watching, knowing that deep down inside, we must...change...channel!

Snowpocalypse (snoh-pok-uh-lips) n. — Snow's nothing new; however, the way it's classified by pundits is. Also snowmaggedon.

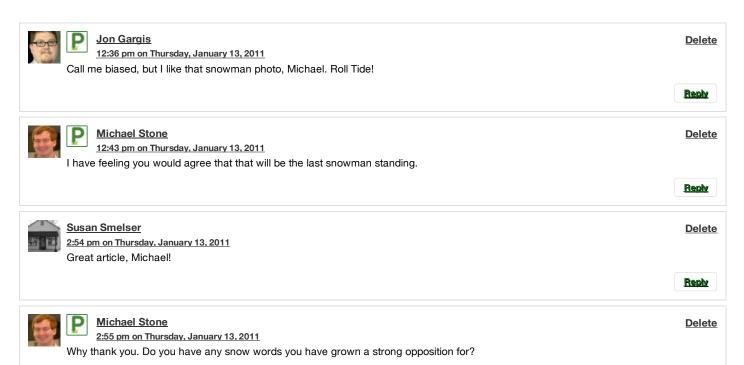
Road conditions (rohd kuhn-dish-uhnz) n. — Wow, look at that person's car on fire from spinning their tires on ice! Now where did I put my keys?

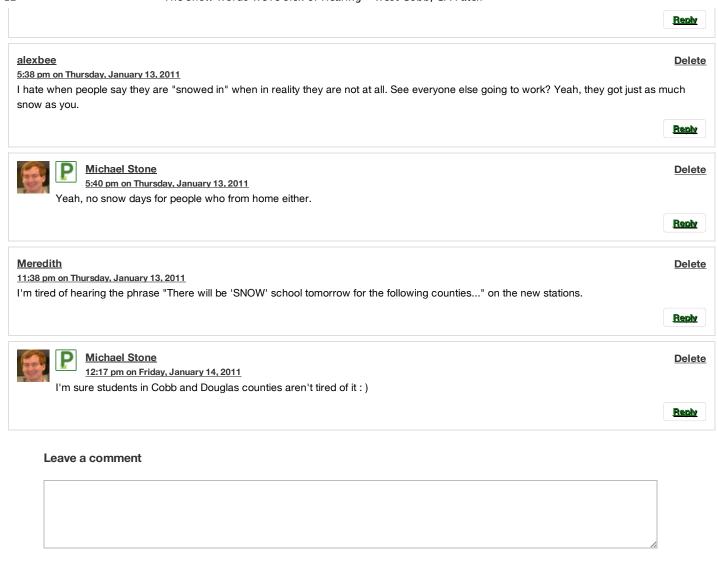
GDOT (jee-daught) n. — We know the Georgia Department of Transportation can't clear our driveways and subdivisions, but that doesn't mean we won't be mad at them for not doing so.

The South doesn't know how to handle snow (sound it out) phrase — We'll admit that we don't spend loads of money for equipment that would be used once every couple of years. But guess what: We're proud of it. We're proud of longer summers and not-as-cold winters. We're proud of cleaning out bread aisles. We're proud that we can actually enjoy a rare snowfall (well, only for the first day). We're proud to call off school even before we see the first snowflake. We're proud of the special relationship that exists between us and our quasi-friend/worst enemy, snow.



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