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Mt. Washington Auto Road Opens to Treeline for 154th Season

Pinkham Notch, NH—The Mt. Washington Auto Road will open for its 154th season on Saturday, May 2 at 9:00am for guests to drive their own vehicles to treeline at 4,200 feet. The 4.5 mile drive to treeline provides stunning vistas of the surrounding peaks and offers a true taste of the Mt. Washington experience.

Despite near record snowfall and colder than average temperatures this winter and spring, the Road crew has moved swiftly from the base of the Road to the 6-mile point removing ice and snow drifts of over 20 feet in places. Because of these snow levels, operations to the summit are not yet possible. Updates as well as photos and video showing the intricate process of clearing the Auto Road are available at www.mtwashingtonautoroad.com.

The May 2nd opening is the earliest the Auto Road has opened, even to treeline, in 10 years. “Lead by 40 year veteran Road Foreman, John Gardner, along with the rest of a very experienced road crew, we’ve been moving quickly in spite of the snow depths and cold spring weather,” said Howie Wemyss, General Manager. “We’re thrilled to be able to offer this Mt Washington experience so early in the season,” he continued.

As recently as fifty years ago, it was considered a success if the Mt. Washington Auto Road was open to the summit by Independence Day, but weather permitting, the Mt. Washington Auto Road hopes to open to the summit before Memorial Day weekend. Guided tours will also be offered at that time.

Early season pricing, in effect until Auto Road opens to the summit, is set at \$28 for car and driver while passengers are free. Season passes are available for \$150 per person and valid through the 2015 season during regular operating hours and allows access for the vehicle and all occupants.

First opened in 1861, the Mt. Washington Auto Road is the first and oldest man-made attraction in America. At nearly 8 miles long, it stretches to the summit of Mt. Washington at 6,288 feet, the highest peak in the Northeast.

The Mt. Washington Auto Road will be open daily during this early season from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., weather permitting. For the latest updates on Road conditions and the operating schedule, visit www.MtWashingtonAutoRoad.com or call (603) 446-3988.

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