

Christmas coming to downtown Dothan

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Go ahead. Dream of a white Christmas. But expect it a little earlier.

Snowflakes will be blowing into downtown Dothan on the morning of Saturday, Dec. 1, as part of the third annual Downtown Christmas Celebration and Festival, Nov. 29-Dec. 1.

This year's holiday festival will include freshly-made artificial snow from the Snow Zone.

The snow, cold to the touch, will be along East Troy Street.

The event kicks off on a Thursday night with the 29th annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony at the Dothan Civic Center and is paid for entirely with private funds. The event is sponsored by the city and the Downtown Group.

"This year's festival is triple the size and magnitude, but we could not do it without the businesses and organizations in the city of Dothan," Cathy

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Cole said. "It is a testimony to the fact that the city of Dothan and the people of Dothan love their downtown and want to support revitalization efforts of

the downtown area."

The festival will include about 50 food and arts and crafts vendors, entertainment, special free events for children, horse and buggy rides, a pet fashion show to benefit Save-A-Pet and two variety shows at the Dothan Opera House.

The Downtown Group will be dedicating its 19th mural depicting Camp Recovery. The mural is on the Gamble building on South St. Andrews Street.