

TRUCK PARKING

A Driver's Perspective



INTRODUCTION

- One of the 3.5 million truck drivers on America's highways
- Walmart Transportation driver who operates out of Greenville, SC
- Driven for more than 41 years and accumulated more than 3.5 million accident free miles





WHERE DO I DRIVE?



- Run 90% of the time on the Interstate 26 and Interstate 95 Corridor
- Truck parking in my daily work
 - 24 truck stops on my normal run
 - 8 rest areas going South
 - 7 rest areas going North
- Truck stops can have anywhere from 8-10 to 150 truck parking spots depending on size. Fuel stops are typically smaller.
- Does not matter how many spots a place has, they're all filling up





REST AREAS

- Motoring public is taking truck parking spots more frequently
 - People in campers, large vans, pulling trailers
 - Sometimes have personal vehicles parked next to campers
 - Signage, local authorities, attendants can all help motoring public park in the correct spaces
 - Truck drivers do not want to confront motoring public because it's a bad image for our industry
- In my area, 2 of the 8 rest areas going south do not have facilities
 - This is the number one criteria for truck drivers when looking for parking
 - Lack of rest areas is particularly hard on female drivers







WALMART'S ADVANTAGE

- Walmart truck drivers can typically park in Walmart lots
- Not all truck drivers have that opportunity
- Some Walmart lots restrict truck parking due to local laws
- Unauthorized parking in Walmart lots can lead to large fines
- Expensive for Walmart or other private lots to host trucks because of cleanup costs
- Noise ordinances are being put in place to limit hours





HOW I FIND A PARKING SPOT

- 10 and 1 rule. Drive 10 hours and use the last hour to find parking
 - Leave yourself a cushion
- Figure out a plan and have a Plan B
- Assess parking availability quickly
 - Take a lap to see who's there
 - Look for clues to see if a truck might pull out
 - Might have to get out and ask a driver if he or she is leaving soon
- By early evening they start filling up. When it gets dark, they're full.
- Call and reserve a spot



