



# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2012

### **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY SNOWPLOWING CONTINUES IN FULL FORCE, DRIVERS URGED TO TRAVEL WITH CAUTION**

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway will continue to use all available manpower and equipment, including its fleet of 183 snowplows, throughout the overnight hours to complete snow removal systemwide. Once the main roadways are clear, work will begin to remove remaining snow from roadway shoulders, ramps and toll plazas across the 286-mile system.

“The evening rush hour was a challenge for drivers as the ongoing snowfall and slow travel conditions put our fleet of snowplows in heavy traffic along with commuters,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur. “We thank our customers for their patience and remind them to travel with caution tonight as we continue to battle falling snow.”

Since the snowfall began this morning, the Tollway has helped 159 motorists in need of assistance, providing services such as changing tires, charging car batteries, dispensing fuel, calling for tows and transporting customers.

If travel is necessary, the Tollway provides the following tips:

- Slow down and leave enough time to reach your destination.
- Do not make sudden lane changes and always use your turn signal.
- Don't follow too closely and increase your intervals between vehicles.
- Remember to always wear your safety belt and ensure children under the age of 8 are securely restrained in child safety seats.
- Yield to snowplows and emergency vehicles.
- Don't text while driving. It's illegal.
- Dial \*999 on your cell phone to report incidents.

If you are involved in a drivable property damage crash, relocate to a safe location and exchange information. Reports can be made at any Illinois State Police District within seven days. If you are involved in a personal injury or non-drivable crash, stay with your vehicle and contact 911.

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