



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 10, 2012

## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY MOBILIZED FOR RUSH HOUR SNOWFALL**

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway has mobilized its full fleet of 183 snowplow trucks in preparation for snowfall that is expected to continue throughout the afternoon and into this evening's rush hour. The Tollway's Snow Operations Center will be open within the hour to manage the agency's systemwide response with a focus on the south Tri-State Tollway (I-294/I-80), which is expected to be the most impacted by this weather event.

"While weather forecasts anticipate the worst of this storm will miss most of our system, we urge all drivers to travel with caution this evening," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur. "With the heaviest snow expected during the rush hour, our full fleet will be out in force to clear the way to help drivers heading home."

For drivers traveling this afternoon and evening, 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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