NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 5, 2013

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY SNOWPLOWING ONGOING, DRIVERS URGED TO TRAVEL WITH CAUTION

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway continues to use all available manpower and equipment to keep up snow removal efforts across its 286 miles of roadways in anticipation of increasing snowfall throughout the day. The Tollway's Snow Operations Center is open and fully staffed and will remain open throughout the duration of this storm.

"We will staff our full fleet of 182 plows systemwide throughout the day as we work to keep up with this storm and ensure our roadways remain open for drivers who need to travel today," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur. "However, while roadways may be clear, the safest option for our customers is to travel only when necessary for the remainder of the day."

Snowfall is continuing across the Tollway system, and pavements are in good condition varying from wet and clear to wet with some snow between lanes.

Since the snowfall began this morning, the Tollway has helped 39 motorists in need of assistance, providing services such as changing tires, charging car batteries, dispensing fuel, calling for tows and transporting customers.

For drivers traveling today and tonight, 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
- Reduce speed in cash lanes at toll plazas
- 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

The Illinois Tollway's Traffic and Incident Management System (TIMS) provides real-time travel times and roadway conditions via the Illinois Tollway's website, www.illinoistollway.com, and on over-the-road electronic message signs throughout the Tollway.

In addition, the Tollway operates a toll-free telephone line to keep customers up to date about weather conditions on its roadways. Customers can call 1-800-TOLL-FYI (1-800-865-5394) to get recorded information that is updated every two hours or as conditions require during winter storms.

About the Illinois Tollway
The Illinois Tollway is a user-fee system that receives no state or federal funds for maintenance and operations. The agency maintains and operates 286 miles of interstate tollways in 12 counties in Northern Illinois, including the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88), the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355), the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80).

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