NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY SNOWPLOWING CONTINUES THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT, DRIVERS REMINDED TO TRAVEL WITH CAUTION

Roadway assistance provided to nearly 50 motorists during storm

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway will continue to use all available manpower and equipment throughout the overnight hours to keep up with continuing snowfall systemwide and address the possibility of blowing and drifting snow in the far western parts of the system.

Once the main roadways are clear, the Tollway's crews will begin to remove remaining snow from roadway shoulders, ramps and toll plazas across the 286-mile system and prepare the roadways for the morning rush hour.

"Our full fleet of 182 snowplows will be on patrol around the clock to keep the roads clear and to ensure that customers get the assistance they need during this storm," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur. "For those who must travel overnight, we urge drivers to be prepared for reduced visibility in particular on east-west roads as winter weather conditions continue."

Since the snowfall began this morning, the Tollway has helped 49 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 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.

Drivers also can sign up for Tollway Tweets at www.twitter.com or from the Tollway's website at www.illinoistollway.com to receive real-time information about roadway incidents, including the type of incident, location and impact on traffic to assist drivers in planning their trips. Tweeters can follow all four Tollway Trips or just the roadways that interest them. The four are Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 94/294, Tollway Trip 88 and Tollway Trip 355.

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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