



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY RESPONDING TO WINTER STORM

Drivers urged to slow down, watch for plows and vehicles stopped on the roadside

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is deploying its full fleet of 196 snowplows and opening its Snow Operations Center to coordinate the agency’s systemwide response to a winter storm moving into the region today and continuing through the night, possibly affecting drivers during their Monday evening and Tuesday morning commutes.

The Tollway is advising drivers to slow down and allow additional time for their travels as heavy snowfall and high winds at times may reduce visibility and affect pavement conditions.

“Our crews will be working throughout this storm to keep our roads clear and our customers safe,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “We’re reminding drivers to slow down and be alert for varying roadway conditions as this storm moves through our area. Drivers should steer clear of plows and emergency vehicles so they have the extra room they need to safely do their work.”

To respond to this weather event, the Illinois Tollway has a full complement of more than 200 staff and supervisors working per shift, around the clock, if necessary, to ensure that roadways are kept clear of snow and ice.

Drivers whose vehicles become disabled or who need help should remain in their cars, activate their hazard lights and dial *999 from a cellphone for assistance from the Illinois Tollway and Illinois State Police District 15. Drivers will be asked to note the roadway they are using, as well as the direction of travel and nearest milepost or crossroad. For crashes involving property damage only, drivers should report the incident to 630-241-6800 ext. 5042 and continue driving.

Tollway Travel Tips

The Tollway also offers the following tips for winter weather events:

- 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.
- [Drop It and Drive](#). Don't text or use a hand-held cellphone while driving. Both are illegal.
- More information about safe winter driving is available at illinoistollway.com

Drivers can receive real-time information on pavement conditions and roadway incidents by signing up for Tollway Trip Tweets at twitter.com from the Tollway’s website at www.illinoistollway.com. Tweeters can follow all five Tollway Trips or just the roadways that interest them. The five are: 94_294_Tollway, @I_90_Tollway, @I_88_Tollway, @I_355_Tollway and @IL_390_Tollway.

The Illinois Tollway reminds motorists the state’s “Move Over Law” **requires** motorists to change lanes or to slow down and proceed with caution when passing any vehicle stopped on the side of the road with hazard lights activated. Drivers may visit <https://www.illinoistollway.com/roadway-safety> for more information on *Give Them Distance, Drop it and Drive*, and other Tollway safety campaigns aimed at making the road safer for everyone.

The Illinois Tollway also reminds customers that [oases located along the Tollway system](#) serve as warming centers and also provide drivers an opportunity to check their vehicles, fill their gas tanks or simply take a break. On the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80), there are four oases: Lake Forest, O’Hare, Hinsdale and Chicago Southland Lincoln in South Holland. There is an oasis on the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) in DeKalb and on the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) in Belvidere.

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 294 miles of roadways 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), the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80) and the Illinois Route 390 Tollway.

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