



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY PREPARED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY WEEKEND TRAVEL

7.4 million vehicles expected to travel Friday through Tuesday

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is encouraging drivers traveling over the Labor Day holiday weekend to be prepared and to put safety first.

Nearly 7.4 million vehicles are anticipated to travel on the 294-mile Illinois Tollway system from Friday, September 3, through Tuesday, September 7. The heaviest traffic is anticipated on Friday, when more than 1.8 million vehicles are expected on the roads. On an average day, about 1.6 million vehicles use the Tollway.

“We are fully focused on protecting the health and safety of the public planning to travel on the Illinois Tollway for an end-of-summer getaway or holiday weekend activities,” said Executive Director José Alvarez. “At our toll plazas, oases and in our construction work zones systemwide, our operations put our customers’ needs first.”

[Prepare for construction work zones](#)

As construction is continuing in full swing, remember to stay focused, slow down and watch for changes in traffic patterns in place to provide safe access for drivers in work zones. The Illinois Tollway will suspend most temporary maintenance and construction lane closures from noon on Friday, September 3, through 9 a.m. on Tuesday, September 7. However, construction may continue in existing work zones to keep work on schedule.

Tollway drivers can expect to see ongoing work:

- On the [Central Tri-State Tollway \(I-294\)](#) where work zones are in place between the O’Hare Oasis and 95th Street including areas with traffic shifts, restricted access and several ramp closures with posted detours.
- At the [I-294/I-57 Interchange](#) where southbound Tollway traffic is reduced from four to three lanes between 159th Street and I-57 and work zones are in place on I-57.

[Remember to bring an I-PASS, E-ZPass or go online to Pay By Plate](#)

While I-PASS or E-ZPass are still the best, most cost-effective way to pay tolls on the Illinois Tollway, customers also can use the online Pay By Plate service to make sure tolls are paid. Customers now have 14 days from the date of their unpaid tolls to set up our Pay By Plate service to ensure avoiding fines and fees.

[Take a break at Tollway Oases](#)

All six Illinois Tollway oases remain open for drivers who need to take a break or fuel up, and all sites are adhering to the same COVID-19 guidelines as all Illinois businesses. Face masks or coverings are required inside all facilities following the guidance provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health and Gov. JB Pritzker. Indoor dining areas continue to offer socially distanced seating and 7-Eleven convenience stores are open. Public washrooms and hand sanitizer stations are available, though water fountains are currently disabled.

[Call for roadside assistance if needed](#)

Call *999 to get help from Tollway roadway maintenance crews or from [Illinois State Police District 15](#) who patrol the Tollway system 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Motorist aid patrols stand ready to help stranded customers change tires, jump-start batteries, add coolant, dispense fuel, transport customers, move vehicles away from traffic and call for a tow truck.

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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