



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 24, 2017

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY EXPECTS ABOUT 8.1 MILLION VEHICLES TO TRAVEL THE TOLLWAY SYSTEM THIS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Take Your I-PASS Transponder With You Wherever You Go This Summer Travel Season

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – Motorists planning to be among the more than 8 million vehicles traveling the Illinois Tollway system this Memorial Day weekend are encouraged to take their I-PASS transponder with them wherever they go.

Keeping an I-PASS transponder in each vehicle and making sure it's properly mounted will ensure successful toll payments on the 292-mile Tollway system and in other states that accept I-PASS, including Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and 12 other states that are part of the E-ZPass network.

The Illinois Tollway expects about 8.1 million vehicles to travel the Tollway system this Memorial Day weekend from Friday, May 26, through Tuesday, May 30. The heaviest travel is anticipated on Friday, May 26, when nearly 2 million vehicles are expected on the road. On an average day, about 1.6 million vehicles use the Tollway.

The Tollway is kicking off the summer travel season by limiting construction activities to work that doesn't impact traffic and providing useful travel information.

Holiday Work Zones

To accommodate increased Memorial Day holiday travel on the Illinois Tollway, most construction activity will be restricted to better serve Tollway customers. Most temporary maintenance and construction lane closures will be suspended from noon on Friday, May 26, through 9 a.m. on Monday, May 29. Some work may continue behind barriers to keep work on schedule, but this work will not impact traffic. All work is weather dependent.

The Tollway encourages customers to slow down and pay attention in work zones. The speed limit in work zones is in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even when workers are not present.

Areas where work zones will continue during the holiday include:

Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294/I-80)

- Between Ballard Road and Gold Road, traffic is shifted on northbound I-294.
- On the Mile Long Bridge, northbound and southbound traffic is shifted.
- Traffic is shifted on the ramp carrying 127th Street to southbound I-294.
- Traffic is reduced on the ramp carrying southbound I-294 to 127th Street.
- Between 135th Street and 131st Street, northbound traffic is shifted.

Jane Adams Memorial Tollway (I-90)

- At Elmhurst Road, the ramps carrying traffic to and from the east on I-90 are closed and detours are posted.
- At Illinois Route 23, I-90 in both directions is reduced to two lanes.

Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88)

- Between U.S. Route 30 in Rock Falls and Chicago Avenue (U.S. Route 52) near Dixon, eastbound traffic is reduced to one lane.
- At the Farnsworth Avenue Interchange, all ramps are open. However, all traffic on Farnsworth Avenue is currently shifted into the northbound lanes and shoulders on I-88 are closed.

Illinois Route 390 Tollway

 Work continues on the Illinois Route 390 Tollway Project with construction along Thorndale Avenue from I-290 to York Road and on the I-290 Interchange. Traffic is shifted onto frontage roads in both directions between I-290 and York Road.

Tollway Travel Tips

The Tollway offers the following ways for drivers to get the latest travel information before they get on the road:

- <u>illinoistollway.com</u> Explore Projects section, Tollway Trip Calculator, live roadway images and real-time roadway incident information
- 1-800-TOLL-FYI Daily lane closure information
- travelmidwest.com Real-time travel times
- <u>twitter.com</u> Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355, Tollway Trip 94/294 and Tollway Trip 390.

Need Help? Dial *999

If your vehicle becomes disabled, call *999 for assistance. Illinois State Police District 15 patrols the 292-mile Tollway system 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and Tollway 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.

Food, Fuel and Fun at Tollway Oases

Drivers can rest and refuel at seven Tollway oases locations throughout the Tollway system and enjoy a variety of services and retail shops, restaurants and free Wi-Fi. In addition, children can climb, slide and crawl around play areas at the O'Hare, Belvidere, Hinsdale and Chicago Southland Lincoln oases.

Illinois State Police District 15 Out in Force

The Illinois State Police District 15 will be out in full force throughout the Illinois Tollway system during the holiday weekend. Special enforcement details focused on speeding, distracted driving, seatbelt use and alcohol-related violations will be the focus to help keep motorists safe.

Illinois State Police District 15 reminds motorists that the "Move Over Law" requires motorists to change lanes when approaching a stationary emergency vehicle with emergency lights activated. If changing lanes is not safe or possible, motorists are required to slow down and proceed with caution when passing the emergency vehicle. This law also applies to any vehicle on the side of the road with hazard lights activated. If you see flashing lights ahead, please move over or slow down.

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 292 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.