



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 11, 2017**

**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AND ILLINOIS STATE POLICE OPERATION KID  
OFFERS FAMILY FUN AND SAFETY EVENT SEPTEMBER 16 IN LAKE FOREST**

*Free safety seat checks and kids ID cards available at K.I.S.S. event at the Lake Forest Oasis*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway and Illinois State Police District 15 are working to keep children safe every trip, every time through Operation Kid 2017 and are hosting a free Kids Identification and Safety Seat (K.I.S.S.) event Saturday, September 16, at the Lake Forest Oasis on the Tri-State Tollway (I-94/I-294).

“We’d like families to stop by and get ID cards for their kids to help keep them safe this summer and throughout the year,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Greg Bedalov. “By providing child ID cards that include a good quality photo and descriptive information, we’re giving parents an effective tool that can be used to help locate a lost or missing child. Parents also can have their children’s safety seats inspected or installed by our experts and there are enjoyable activities to keep the kids entertained.”

The next Operation Kid K.I.S.S. event is scheduled Saturday, September 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lake Forest Oasis. Kids’ ID cards will be processed inside the oasis pavilion and safety seat inspections will take place in the parking lot on the eastbound side of the oasis.

Highlights include:

- Free identification cards for children ages 3 and older.
- Child safety seat inspections and installation.
- Touch-a-truck display featuring hands-on exploration of a Tollway H.E.L.P. truck and snowplow.
- A visit from Ronald McDonald from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Free passes to the Volo Auto Museum in Volo.
- Free passes to Six Flags Great America.
- Goodie bags, including oasis restaurant gift certificates.

**Operation Kid 2017 – It’s as easy as 1-2-3!**

Operation Kid 2017 K.I.S.S. events make staying safe quick and convenient for parents, grandparents, caregivers, and fun for kids by providing free kids’ ID cards and child safety seat inspection and installation help. K.I.S.S. events are scheduled throughout Northern Illinois in 2017.

**1 – Find an event near you!**

The Illinois Tollway and Illinois State Police District 15 are hosting the free K.I.S.S. events at convenient locations, including children’s museums, malls and Tollway oases.

A complete list is available on the Tollway’s website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com).

**2 – Get a photo ID card for your child**

At K.I.S.S. events, trained professionals take photographs and fingerprints of children 3 and older and gather vital information to include on an ID card that parents and caregivers can reference in an emergency.

Up to 90 percent of families will at some point temporarily lose a child in a public place, surveys indicate. Kids IDs are tools that provide police with accurate descriptions to help locate lost children.

### **3 – Make sure your child’s safety seat is safely installed**

Certified child passenger safety technicians inspect child safety seats and help with proper positioning and installation, as well as provide information on correct sizing, expiration dates and recalls to protect children most effectively.

Properly installed child safety seats save lives and significantly reduce injuries in the event of a crash. Yet, Illinois State Police find that approximately 90 percent of child safety seats they inspect are improperly installed.

“One child fatality on Illinois roadways is one too many,” said District 15 Commander Robert Meeder. “K.I.S.S. events offer a convenient way for drivers to make sure they comply with Illinois law, which requires that whenever a person is transporting a child under age 8, the person is responsible for properly securing the child in an appropriate child restraint system.”

### **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.

###