



# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 8, 2018

### ILLINOIS TOLLWAY PREPARED FOR OVERNIGHT AND RUSH HOUR SNOWFALL

*Drivers reminded to allow more time for morning commutes*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway is deploying its full fleet of 196 snowplows in response to heavy snowfall beginning today and continuing into Friday, affecting drivers during their evening travel and Friday commutes. The Tollway's Snow Operations Center is open to manage the agency's systemwide response.

"We're urging drivers to slow down and allow extra time for their trips, especially since heavy snow and strong winds could at times reduce visibility," said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Greg Bedalov. "Drivers need to be particularly vigilant during this winter weather for vehicles that are stopped along our roads and have their emergency or hazard lights flashing. The state's Move Over Law requires drivers approaching these vehicle to slow down and change lanes safely to [Give Them Distance](#)."

Drivers whose vehicles become disabled should activate their hazard lights and dial \*999 from a cellphone for assistance from 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.

To respond to this weather event, the Illinois Tollway will have a full complement of more than 200 staff and supervisors per shift to ensure that roadways are kept clear of snow and ice. To help with snow removal efforts, the Tollway has cancelled all temporary lane closures through 1 p.m. Sunday, February 11.

#### **Illinois Tollway Keeps Drivers Informed**

In addition to working to keep roads free of snow and ice, the Illinois Tollway provides drivers with information to help them reach their destinations safely during winter weather events.

The Illinois Tollway's Traffic and Incident Management System provides real-time travel times and roadway conditions on over-the-road electronic message signs throughout the Tollway.

Real-time roadway incident information including the type of incident, location and impact on traffic is also available on [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com) or via Twitter to assist drivers in planning their trips. Drivers can sign up for Tollway Trip Tweets at [twitter.com](http://twitter.com) from the Tollway's website at [illinoistollway.com](http://illinoistollway.com). Tweeters can follow all five Tollway Trips or just the roadways that interest them. The five are Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 94/294, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355 and Tollway Trip 390.

#### **Tollway Travel Tips**

The Tollway 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 on ramps and toll plazas.
- Remember to always wear your safety belt and ensure children under the age of 8 are securely restrained in child safety seats.
- 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](http://illinoistollway.com)

**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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