



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ILLINOIS TOLLWAY HELPS MAKE HOLIDAY TRAVEL SAFE AND CONVENIENT FOR CUSTOMERS

Tollway oases share free coffee for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve

DOWNERS GROVE, IL – The Illinois Tollway is preparing to host holiday travelers across its five roadways in Northern Illinois and is offering a sampler of services to provide safe driving, the convenience of I-PASS and a warm cup of cheer.

“The Illinois Tollway wishes all of our customers a safe and happy holiday season,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez. “We urge you to drive safely, stay alert and visit one of our Oases if you need to rest and refuel during your holiday travels.”

The Illinois Tollway anticipates drivers will get a head start on this season's holiday travel, with the heaviest travel is expected on Friday, December 20, when nearly 1.8 million vehicles are projected to use the 294-mile Tollway system. On an average day, more than 1.6 million vehicles use the Illinois Tollway.

Nearly 1.5 million vehicles are expected to travel on the Tollway system on Tuesday, December 24, and more than 1.1 million on Christmas Day. Approximately 1.4 million vehicles are expected on the Tollway system on Tuesday, December 31, and 1.1 million on New Year's Day.

Offering *999 roadway assistance

Need help on the road? Tollway customers can call *999 to get assistance from Tollway roadway maintenance crews or from Illinois State Police District 15 while traveling the Tollway system during the holidays. 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. District 15 troopers patrol the Tollway system 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Spreading Holiday Cheer

Join the Illinois Tollway for a ho-ho holiday tradition – 7-Eleven and McDonald's are inviting motorists to stop at a Tollway oasis for a free small cup of coffee on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90)

- Belvidere Oasis, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at 7-Eleven and McDonald's

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

- Lake Forest Oasis – 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at 7-Eleven and McDonald's
- O'Hare Oasis – 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at 7-Eleven
- Hinsdale Oasis – 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at 7-Eleven and McDonald's
- Chicago Southland Lincoln Oasis – 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. to 6 a.m. at McDonald's and 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at 7-Eleven

Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88)

- DeKalb Oasis, 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. at 7-Eleven and McDonald's

Sharing the gift of I-PASS

I-PASS customers now have the ability to add license plates of traveling family and friends and rental cars to their I-PASS accounts. Temporary plates can be added as authorized I-PASS account users to pay tolls electronically and avoid violations. Account holders can update their accounts online or by calling 800-UCI-PASS.

Clearing the way for holiday travel

Ongoing construction activity will be restricted to better serve Tollway customers during holiday travel with any temporary maintenance and construction lane closures suspended from noon on Tuesday, December 24, through 9 a.m. on Thursday, December 26, and again from noon on Tuesday, December 31, through 9 a.m. on Thursday, January 2. Some work may continue behind barriers with long-term lane closures remaining in place, including lane reductions on the Edens Spur Tollway (I-94) between Illinois Route 43 and the Edens Expressway and traffic shifts on the on the Central Tri-State Tollway (I-294) and east end of the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90).

Preparing for safe travel

Winter travel in the Midwest can be unpredictable, but by planning ahead and practicing safe winter driving habits, drivers can help ensure the safety of everyone on the road during the holidays. When driving in Winter Weather – Get it Together by slowing down, increasing the distance from other vehicles and giving snowplows the room they need to do their work.

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 interstate tollways 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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