



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 7, 2018**

## **ILLINOIS TOLLWAY AND ILLINOIS STATE POLICE LAUNCH OPERATION KID 2018**

*First event scheduled May 12 at The Promenade Bolingbrook  
to help parents create kids' identification cards and install child safety seats*

**DOWNERS GROVE, IL** – The Illinois Tollway and Illinois State Police District 15 are launching Operation Kid 2018 to keep children safe and parents worry-free, every trip, every time.

“Operation Kid helps parents and caregivers keep kids safe this summer in three easy steps,” said Illinois Tollway Executive Director Liz Gorman. “Last year, more than 500 child safety seats were checked and more than 970 kids ID cards issued at K.I.S.S. at our events.”

Operation Kid 2018 launches on Saturday, May 12, with an event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at The Promenade Bolingbrook, 631 E. Boughton Road. Highlights include:

- Free identification cards for children ages 3 and older and child safety seat inspections and installations.
- Touch-a-truck display featuring hands-on exploration of a Tollway H.E.L.P. truck, snowplow and local emergency vehicles.
- Kids Club activities and Mother's Day crafts, including inflatable slide, balloon twister and face painter.
- Drawings for A Children's Place and Barnes & Noble gift cards.

Twelve Kids Identification and Safety Seat (K.I.S.S.) events are scheduled for 2018 throughout Northern Illinois to provide free kids' ID cards and inspect and install child safety seats. Keeping children safe this summer is easy as 1-2-3.

### **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, area stores 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 a tool that provide police with an accurate description 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 more than 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.”

### **2018 K.I.S.S. Events**

K.I.S.S. events are scheduled at a variety of locations along the 294-mile Illinois Tollway system throughout Northern Illinois with support from in-kind partner buybuy BABY.

May 12	The Promenade Bolingbrook
May 19	Hinsdale Oasis
May 26	Chicago Southland Lincoln Oasis in South Holland
June 2	Kohl Children’s Museum in Glenview
June 16	Discovery Center Museum in Rockford
July 14	Lake Forest Oasis
July 28	buybuy BABY in Batavia
August 4	Itasca Fire Protection District
August 11	Children’s Museum of Oak Lawn
August 25	DuPage Children’s Museum in Naperville
September 22	IKEA Schaumburg
September 29	Family Safety Fair at Tollway headquarters in Downers Grove

For more information about Operation Kid 2018 and to see additional activities at each event, visit the Tollway’s website 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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