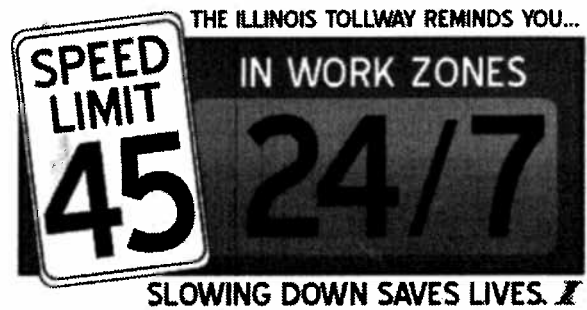


## Illinois Tollway Work Zone Safety

As the temperatures rise, so does our desire to hit the road for some outdoor exploration, time by the lake or visiting family or friends. This summer, if you are taking the James Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90), please be advised that a 45 mph work zone speed limit is in place between Elgin and Rockford. The 37 mile work zone stretch is enforced 24 hours a day, seven days a week, regardless of whether workers are present.

### Why does the 45 mile per hour work zone exist?

- Work zone traffic lanes are narrower than others
- There are no shoulders
- Traffic patterns shift often throughout the work zone
- Pavement is uneven in sections
- Barrier walls create a feeling of confinement
- Narrow lanes, coupled with trucks traveling in the left lane can make the driving experience more intense
- It's the law



The minimum penalty for speeding in a work zone is \$375 for the first offense and a minimum of \$1,000 for the second offense. Posted signs advise drivers of a \$10,000 fine and 14-year jail sentence for hitting a roadway worker.

### Systemwide Work Zones

Whether you are taking I-90 or another Tollway road, please be aware that on average there are more than 7,000 work zone motor vehicles in Illinois each year. In 2012, the 19 fatal crashes involved 13 drivers, three passengers, and three pedestrians; two of which were workers. Remember that all handheld electronic devices in a construction work zone are illegal.

### Helpful Driving Tips

1. **Pay attention:** Watch for signs along the I-90 construction zones advising of traffic shifts, accidents or other warnings.
2. **Don't tailgate:** One of the most common crashes in a work zone is a rear-end collision.
3. **If passing a truck, do so quickly and keep out of a truck's blind spot:** Change lanes when you see the truck's headlights or front grill in your rearview mirror.
4. **Trucks create wind gusts:** Keep both hands on the wheel when passing or being passed by a truck.

### Know before you go

The Illinois Tollway has a variety of ways customers can get the latest travel information, including:

- [www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com) – Construction/Planning section and Tollway Trip Calculator
- 1-800-TOLL-FYI – Daily lane closure information

- [www.travelmidwest.com](http://www.travelmidwest.com) – Real-time travel times
- [www.nbcchicago.com](http://www.nbcchicago.com) – Up-to-the-minute traffic by roadway
- [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) – Real-time roadway incident information at Tollway Trip 90, Tollway Trip 88, Tollway Trip 355 and Tollway Trip 94/294