



News from the Ohio Turnpike

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For Immediate Release:

E-ZPass enrolls its 350,000th Ohio customer

Customer growth occurs as number of Ohio retailers offering money-saving program grows

BEREA (Aug. 29, 2016) – Ohio's *E-ZPass*® program, which began providing discounted tolls and faster entrance and exit on the Ohio Turnpike in 2009, enrolled its 350,000th customer this month. The milestone occurs simultaneously with the Ohio Turnpike's strategy to expand its partnerships with Ohio retailers.

The 350,000th *E-ZPass* customer, Ross Bins, 78, lives in Aurora, Nebraska with his wife, Joanne. In its first six years and nine months of operation on the Ohio Turnpike, *E-ZPass* saved its customers, including Mr. Bins, more than \$300 million compared to customers who paid cash over the same period.

The number of overall users and vehicle miles travelled with *E-ZPass* has increased steadily since the program began on the Ohio Turnpike in 2009. In 2015, 47.6 percent of passenger vehicle customers who travel the Turnpike used *E-ZPass*. Currently, 56.7 percent of all customers (passenger and commercial vehicles) use *E-ZPass*.

"In a continued effort to be responsive to our customers, we're making it easier than ever to open an *E-ZPass* account by continually growing our retail partnerships," said Ohio Turnpike Executive Director Randy Cole. "We have partnered with several highly respected brand names in retail and we are looking to add more."

With 37 tolling authorities in 16 states – and growing—*E-ZPass* represents the largest and most successful interoperable tolling network in the world.

"Our customers will save both time and money using *E-ZPass*," added Cole. In fact, the average savings on tolls is 33 percent and customers can save up to 50 percent on a single trip."

***E-ZPass* by the Numbers:**

- *E-ZPass* transponders are \$12 at all retail locations. Allow up to 24 hours for activation in Ohio and up to 48 hours for use of the transponder in other states.
- A credit card and a minimum balance of \$25 per transponder are required to open an account.
- Savings realized by all *E-ZPass* customers since 2009: \$303,000,000 (as of 7/31/2016).
- About 56.7 percent of all customers currently use *E-ZPass*.
- Almost 10,000 Ohio *E-ZPass* customers use the system for at least 30 trips per month.
- In 2015, 59.4 percent (1.78 billion) of vehicle miles travelled were by *E-ZPass* customers.

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About E-ZPass

E-ZPass is an electronic toll collection system that allows customers to enter and exit the Turnpike without stopping to receive a ticket or to pay the toll. *E-ZPass* saves both time and money. Travelers receive an average 33 percent discount from their toll charge for using *E-ZPass*.

Thirty Discount Drug Mart locations offer *E-ZPass* for passenger vehicles in seven northern Ohio Counties (Cuyahoga, Erie, Huron, Lorain, Medina, Sandusky and Summit).

E-ZPass is also available at 90 northeast Ohio Giant Eagle Stores in 13 counties and at 72 northeast Ohio area GetGo locations in 15 counties. In northwest, Ohio, *E-ZPass* is available at Barney's Convenience Marts at 18 locations in Lucas and Wood Counties. It can also be obtained through www.ezpassoh.com, at any of the 14 Ohio Turnpike Service Plaza locations or by calling the Customer Service Center at 440-234-2081 ext. 1075.

The Ohio Turnpike is a 241-mile toll road offering one of the safest, best and most convenient routes for motorists to reach east/west destinations along the northern corridor of Ohio. The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission provides excellent customer service and amenities to meet travelers' wants and needs, including state-of-the-art service plazas, a variety of restaurant choices, and routine maintenance for a smooth, pleasant trip.

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For more information please contact:

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