



# News from the Ohio Turnpike

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**For Immediate Release:**

## **Barney's becomes first northwest Ohio retailer to offer *E-ZPass***

**BEREA** (Dec. 4, 2015) – Taking the Ohio Turnpike in northwest Ohio will now be easier than ever. Barney's Convenience Mart Inc. is the first non-Turnpike retailer to offer *E-ZPass*® transponders in northwest Ohio, to its customers at 18 locations in Lucas and Wood Counties beginning today.

In its six years of operation on the Ohio Turnpike, *E-ZPass* saved its customers more than \$250 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. Now, 47.2 percent of passenger vehicle customers who travel the Turnpike use *E-ZPass*.

"In our continued effort to be responsive to the needs of our customers, we are making it easier than ever to acquire an Ohio *E-ZPass* through our partnership with Barney's," said Ohio Turnpike Executive Director Randy Cole. "Customers save both time and money by enrolling in the program. Every time our customers pay their toll using *E-ZPass*, they save an average of 33 percent."

"At Barney's, we are proud to partner with the Ohio Turnpike. Barney's means convenience to our customers and to our community. We are very excited to be the first northwest Ohio retailer to offer *E-Z Pass* at our 18 locations," said Barney's Vice President Jim Sutphin.

With 27 tolling authorities in 16 states—and growing—*E-ZPass* represents the largest and most successful interoperable tolling network in the world.

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

- Eighteen (18) Barney's locations will offer *E-ZPass* transponders for passenger vehicles only in two northwestern Ohio Counties.
- *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: \$255,735,000 (as of 9/30/2015).
- About 52.9 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 2014, 57.4 percent (1.65 billion) of vehicle miles travelled were by *E-ZPass* customers.

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### **About Barney's**

Barney's Convenience Mart Inc. is a locally owned and operated chain of 18 BP convenience stores and truck stops, servicing Northwest Ohio along the I-75/475 interstate and Ohio Turnpike corridor. Barney's operates locations running from the Ohio Michigan border to Bowling Green. With a staff of approximately 165 employees we are proud to service the community.

### **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*. The Ohio Turnpike *E-ZPass* maintenance fee (75 cents per month) is waived for frequent Ohio Turnpike travelers—those who take the Ohio Turnpike for 30 or more single trips per month. *E-ZPass* is also available at [www.ezpassoh.com](http://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 the safest, smoothest and most convenient route 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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