



# News from the Ohio Turnpike

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**For Immediate Release:**

## **Giant Eagle becomes first Ohio retailer to offer *E-ZPass***

**BEREA** (July 10, 2015) – Taking the Ohio Turnpike will now be easier than ever. In a move designed to enable easy access to *E-ZPass*®, Giant Eagle will be the first non-Turnpike retailer to offer *E-ZPass* transponders to customers at 90 northern Ohio locations in 13 counties beginning this week.

In its first five years and eight months of operation on the Ohio Turnpike, *E-ZPass* saved its customers more than \$235 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, 45.5 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 Giant Eagle,” said Ohio Turnpike Executive Director Randy Cole. “Customers can save both time and money by enrolling in the program. The average savings on tolls is 33 percent and customers can save up to 50 percent on a single trip.”

"At Giant Eagle, we are continually seeking opportunities to maximize customer convenience," said Giant Eagle spokesperson Dan Donovan. "We are excited to be the first retailer in Ohio to offer our customers the ability to obtain *E-ZPass* transponders in-store."

With 26 tolling authorities in 15 states – and growing—*E-ZPass* represents the largest and most successful interoperable tolling network in the world.

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

- Ninety (90) Giant Eagle Stores will offer *E-ZPass* transponders for passenger vehicles only in 13 northern 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: \$235,302,000 (as of 5/31/2015).
- 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 Giant Eagle**

Giant Eagle Inc., ranked 35 on *Forbes* magazine's largest private corporations list, is one of the nation's largest food retailers and distributors with approximately \$9.6 billion in annual sales.

Founded in 1931, Giant Eagle, Inc. has grown to be the number one supermarket retailer in the region with 416 retail locations throughout western Pennsylvania, north central Ohio, northern West Virginia and Maryland.

**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 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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