



News from the Ohio Turnpike

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For Immediate Release:

Most Ohio Turnpike construction suspended over Memorial Day weekend

Reduced speed limit in Work Zones remains in effect over holiday weekend

BEREA (May 22, 2015) – With five major extended work zones* along the Ohio Turnpike this Memorial Day holiday weekend, the Ohio Turnpike & Infrastructure Commission (OTIC) reminds travelers to Slow Down and Move Over or face doubled fines.

Ohio's Move Over Law is designed to protect the lives of everyone who works on or uses the state's roadways. It requires motorists to cautiously shift over one lane — or slow down if changing lanes is not possible — when passing most vehicles with flashing lights on the side of a road.

This issue is so serious that fines are doubled for failing to move over or slow down in a work zone when passing any vehicle with flashing lights on the side of a road. Violators are fined \$300 for the first violation (a minor misdemeanor), \$500 for the same violation within a year of the first, and \$1,000 for more than two violations in a year.

“Moving over for all stationary towing, emergency, law enforcement or highway maintenance vehicles will save lives,” said OTIC Executive Director Randy Cole. “I want everyone to get to their destination timely, but more importantly, I want to make sure they reach it safely and that everyone providing services on the Turnpike gets to go home after work.”

The original Move Over Law took effect in 2004 to reduce risk to law-enforcement officers, emergency responders and tow operators. It was expanded in December 2013 to apply to every stationary vehicle with flashing lights, including road construction, maintenance and utility crews.

Across the nation, hundreds of people are killed or injured every year when they're struck by a vehicle after pulling over to the side of the road or highway. On average, these "struck-by" crashes kill one tow-truck driver every six days; 23 highway workers and one law-enforcement officer every month; and five firefighters every year. Tragically, stranded motorists are also struck and killed.

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***EXTENDED WORK ZONES OVER THE MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND THAT MAY AFFECT TRAVEL:**

| MILEPOST | CLOSURE DETAILS | COUNTY |
|--------------|--|----------------------------|
| 72.9-81.75 | Estimated Completion Date: June 26, 2015 One lane is closed in each direction for pavement repairs and two lanes are open at all times in each direction. | Wood Ottawa Sandusky |
| 101.2-107.3 | Estimated Completion Date: Nov. 2, 2015 Westbound right and center lanes are closed for base pavement replacement. Traffic will be maintained in the left lane and a bi-directional zone in the eastbound left lane. | Sandusky |
| 144.1-149-24 | Estimated Completion Date: Nov. 10, 2015 Eastbound left lane & left shoulder are closed for a bi-directional zone. This closure is due to base pavement replacement in the westbound lanes. Customers using exit 145 must stay in the right lane only. | Lorain |
| 159.8-164.8 | Estimated Completion Date: Nov. 12, 2015 Westbound right and center lanes are closed for base pavement replacement. Traffic will be maintained in the left lane and a bi-directional zone in the eastbound left lane. Customers using exit 161 must stay in the right lane only. | Cuyahoga |
| 216.-221.26 | Estimated Completion Date: Nov. 13, 2015 Eastbound right and center lanes are closed for a bi-directional zone. This closure is due to base pavement replacement in the eastbound lanes. Exit 216 from the east is closed. Customers may use Exit 218 and follow the detour. | Trumbull Mahoning |

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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 & 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. For a better travel experience, choose the Ohio Turnpike.