

NOTICE OF PROPOSED GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

Memorial Day weekend travelers asked to plan ahead, buckle up, be patient and safe

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 227.112, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hereby seeking comment on a news release asking travelers to be safe during the Memorial Day weekend, a proposed guidance document (ss. 347.48 – seat belts; ss. 346 – speeding; ss. 346.072 – Move Over law; and ss. 346.89 – texting while driving)

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

Comments may be submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for 21 days by:

1. Department's website: <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/home.aspx>
2. <https://trust.dot.state.wi.us/act369/?id=OPA653&uri=file:W/Releases/REL20/DSP/memoriamday.docx&division=OPA>
3. Mailing written comments to:

Office of Public Affairs
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4822 Madison Yards Way
PO Box 7910
Madison, WI 53707-7910

WEBSITE LOCATION OF FINAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The final version of this guidance document will be posted at wisconsindot.gov to allow for ongoing comment.

AGENCY CONTACT

DOTOPAGuidanceDocs@DOT.WI.GOV

May 21, 2020

For more information, contact:

WisDOT Office of Public Affairs
608/266-3581, opa.exec@dot.wi.gov

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While most highway construction is being put on hold, motorists will likely encounter work zones requiring reduced speed, extra caution

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and its Division of State Patrol are asking Memorial Day weekend travelers to buckle up, slow down, expect slower traffic in work zones and along major travel corridors. Peak travel times are expected to occur between noon and 8 p.m. on Friday (May 22) and Monday (May 25). Construction in most highway work zones will stop by noon on Friday (May 22) and will not resume until 6 a.m. on Tuesday, May 26. While workers will open as many highway lanes as possible, motorists still need to be patient, alert and watch their speed.

“The State Patrol and other police agencies will be out enforcing traffic laws and assisting stranded motorists, but ultimately, safety along our highways is in the hands of responsible drivers,” WisDOT Secretary-designee Craig Thompson said.

WisDOT and the State Patrol. Other important traffic safety reminders:

- Slow down. Posted speed limits apply to ideal travel conditions. Drivers are required to travel at a “reasonable and prudent” speed based on weather and traffic conditions.
- Eliminate distractions and focus on what’s ahead. Texting while driving is prohibited and very dangerous. It is also illegal in Wisconsin for drivers to use a handheld mobile device in work zones (except in an emergency).
- Be prepared to Move Over or slow down when approaching emergency responders including police and fire vehicles, ambulances, tow trucks and highway maintenance vehicles that are stopped along a highway with their warning lights flashing. If your vehicle breaks down, try to get safely off the highway, remain buckled up and wait for help to arrive.

For up-to-the-minute information on work zones and incidents that may affect highway travel, motorists can access the state’s 511 travel information system by downloading the free 511 Wisconsin mobile app or following [@511WI on Twitter](https://twitter.com/511WI). Users can also access the system by dialing 511 on a phone or visiting 511wi.gov on the web.

Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicle customer service centers will be closed on Memorial Day, but citizens can conduct DMV business online 24/7 at wisconsindmv.gov.

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View this document online in the [WisDOT Newsroom](#).