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No phones in work zones

Mobile devices continue to be one of the leading causes of distracted driving, and Wisconsin drivers were involved in more than 2,800 work zone crashes last year. Between 2011 and 2015, distracted driving caused 14 deaths and 843 injuries in Wisconsin work zone crashes.

For this reason, in October 2016, Wisconsin joined 13 other states to limit the use of mobile devices while driving in construction zones. The new law is part of a number of safety initiatives to increase the safety of motorists and roadway workers throughout the state.

Drivers who violate the no phones in work zones law face fines up to \$40 for first offense and \$100 for subsequent offenses. There are a couple of important exceptions to the law.

Motorists can use hands-free devices while in construction zones or, if there is an emergency, motorists can use their hand-held phones to call 911. WisDOT cautions that although hands-free use of a phone is legal, it can still cause driver distractions and asks motorists take extra care whenever driving through work zones.

Wisconsin law also forbids driving a motor vehicle while composing or sending an electronic text message or email.

There are some simple ways to avoid the risk and be safe while driving:

- Whenever you are behind the wheel, turn off your phone or switch it to silent mode. Your phone call or text can wait.
- If you're on a long drive, perhaps consider recording a voice mail message that tells your friends or family that you'll be unavailable for a specific period of time.
- If you have to use the phone to make a call or send a text, stop at a rest stop, wayside, or public areas like restaurants and gas stations.
- If you're traveling with others, ask your passengers to make or accept a phone call for you. If you're the passenger and you notice the driver is distracted by their phone, speak up!
- For parents, encourage your young drivers to get in the habit of leaving their phone off or on silent while they are driving. One mistake can ruin a young driver's life forever.



**It's simple! Just
remember, when you
see orange cones, PUT
DOWN THE PHONE!**

Plan ahead with the 2017 Construction Guide

As the 2017 construction season gets underway, motorists should be aware of the construction work zones along most of Interstate 39/90, between the Illinois state line and Madison. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) has 12 reconstruction projects scheduled for this year along this section of Interstate. Motorists can better navigate these work zones with the 2017 Construction Guide, which can be viewed on the I-39/90 Project website at www.i39-90.wi.gov.

The guide identifies the projects taking place this year, and also highlights the alternate routes. These routes are used to alleviate congestion and facilitate incident management during and after the Interstate expansion. Road work for this construction season includes interchange reconfigurations; temporary lane widening; bridge replacements; and Interstate reconstruction and expansion in the Edgerton and Janesville areas. Be sure to keep a Construction Guide in your vehicle.

A print version of the 2017 Construction Guide is also available at various sites in communities adjacent to I-39/90 including:

- Rest areas
- Local government buildings
- Division of Motor Vehicle (DMV) locations

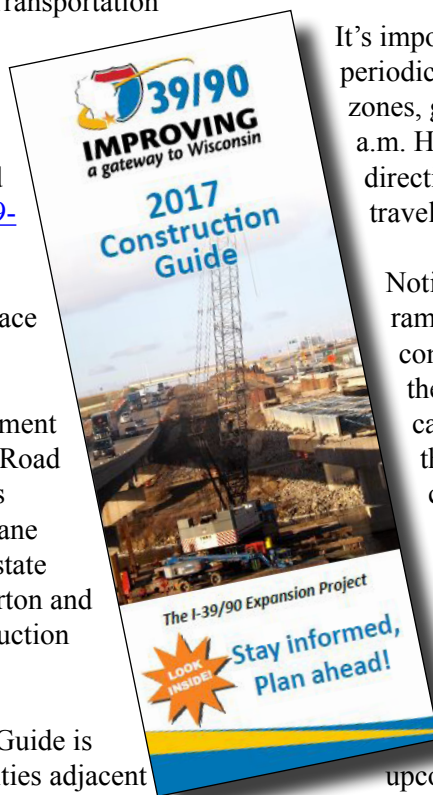
- Area libraries
- Chambers of commerce and visitor centers
- Project field office in Edgerton

It's important to note that motorists may experience periodic nighttime single lane closures in work zones, generally weekdays between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. However, two lanes will remain open in each direction on I-39/90, especially during peak travel times.

Notices detailing upcoming work, lane closures, ramp closures and other traffic impacts for these construction projects will be sent to the media and the I-39/90 Project email distribution list. You can sign up to be added to this list by visiting the project website, www.i39-90.wi.gov, and clicking on the "Sign Up for Updates" tab.

You can also track all of the construction progress by following the project Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project. The Facebook page provides an interactive way to learn more about up-to-date construction activities, upcoming meetings, project schedules, and informational project videos.

For everyone's safety, please slow down, be patient and pay attention when driving through all work zones.



Work zone safety is in your hands

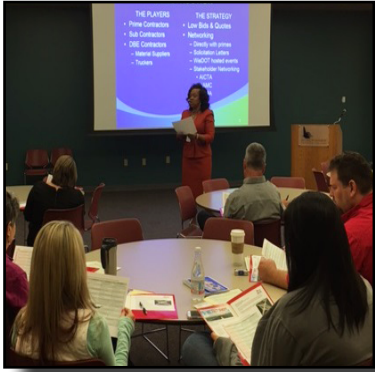
Tragically, each year in Wisconsin, both highway workers and motorists are injured or killed in crashes that happen in highway construction zones.

To prevent these avoidable incidents, Governor Walker has proclaimed April 3-7, 2017 as Work Zone Awareness Week in Wisconsin to build public awareness of the fact that safe driving around and through road construction work zones can be a matter of life or death for both workers and motorists. This year's campaign slogan is "Work Zone Safety is in Your Hands".

Here are some helpful tips to help you get in and out of a work zone safely:

- **Pay attention.** Eliminate distractions like eating, drinking, talking on the phone, or fiddling with electronic devices.
- **Expect the unexpected.** Speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people and vehicles may be working on or near the road.
- **Slow down.** A car traveling 60 mph travels 88 feet per second, and the faster you go the longer it takes to stop.
- **Give yourself room.** Rear-end collisions are the most common work zone crashes, so don't tailgate.
- **Watch for signage.** Orange, diamond-shaped signs give you ample warning of lane closings, construction areas, and flaggers and other workers ahead.
- **Be patient.** If you don't see workers, that doesn't mean they're not there. Observe the signs until you see one that says you've left the work zone.
- **Plan ahead.** Leave early or map out an alternate route. Find the latest road conditions and work zone news for the I-39/90 Project at www.i39-90.wi.gov or other Wisconsin highways at www.511wi.gov.
- **Follow the law.** Slow down and move over, if possible, when you see flashing lights.

Following these simple tips may save your life and the lives of others.



More than 20 businesses participated in the Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Outreach Event late last year. The event, hosted by members of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in conjunction with the Greater Beloit Chamber of Commerce and Forward

Janesville, provided businesses the opportunity to learn about business certifications that give small businesses a competitive edge when bidding on state projects.

The event also informed attendees about what it is like to do business with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and other state agencies. Information was shared with them information on how to search and bid on state and federal funded projects and how to access further training and support for their business to grow.

A special thank you to the Blackhawk Technical College for the use of its meeting room and to the members of the Office of Business Opportunity and Equity Compliance (OBOEC),

WisDOT adds new lot to its Park and Ride program

As part of the I-39/90 and WIS 59 interchange reconstruction completed in late 2016, WisDOT added a Park and Ride lot in the southeast quadrant of the interchange which is now open to the public. Final restoration continues in the area this spring, but will not impede use of the lot.

Park and Ride lots operate to encourage ridesharing, reduce congestion and promote energy conservation by offering commuters a place to park and join together with other individuals to carpool or vanpool to a common destination(s).

The new Newville Park and Ride features 122 parking stalls with most of it signed for 48 hour parking only. One section of the lot does allow for 7-day parking. Vehicles parked in designated areas longer than the time allowed will be ticketed and towed. It's strategically located, is well-lit and is neighbored by gas stations, restaurants and lodging for motorists' convenience.

The lot is not intended to be used by large trucks over four tons, and no detached trailers or vehicles for sale can be left in the lot. Offending vehicles or trailers will be ticketed and towed. In addition, while this lot is set up for bus access, no transit is currently planning to stop at the Newville lot. Public transportation services may be added in the future. The lot will be maintained by the Rock County Highway Department and patrolled by the Rock County Sheriff's Office.

the Small Business Administration and the Wisconsin Procurement Institute (WPI) for helping make this event a success.

To learn more about how your business can become DBE certified, please visit <http://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/doing-bus/civil-rights/dbe/eligibility-requirements.aspx> or contact Crystal Wilson, DBE Outreach Coordinator at crystal.wilson@dot.wi.gov.

Congratulations to Behnke Materials Engineering

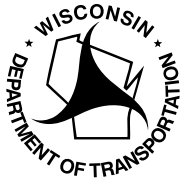


The company was certified as a Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE). The certification provides new opportunities for Behnke Materials to work on WisDOT projects including the I-39/90 Expansion Project.

With this new location, WisDOT offers more than 100 Park and Ride lots throughout the state. Information and a map of the state's Park and Ride lots can be found at wisconsindot.gov/Pages/travel/road/parknride/default.aspx. Safe travels!



The new Park and Ride in Newville is a part of the I-39/90 and WIS 59 interchange reconstruction project completed last year.



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

**Wisconsin Department
of Transportation**
I-39/90 Project
111 Interstate Blvd.
Edgerton, WI 53534-9399



I-39/90 Expansion Project Newsletter


SPRING 2017



**Put your phone down while driving.
It could save a life, including yours.
It's also the law in construction zones.
Read more about it inside!**

Connect with us!

Stay up-to-date on the I-39/90 Expansion Project. From construction updates to meeting notices and handouts, you can connect with us to get information in whichever way is most convenient.

 608.884.1234

 www.i39-90.wi.gov

 I39-90Project@dot.wi.gov

 [Facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project](https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinI3990Project)

Sign up for email updates on the project website.

Get real-time travel conditions by calling 511 or visiting, www.511wi.gov.

