

Drive Safe. Work Safe. Save Lives.

April 26-30, 2021 National Work Zone Awareness Week

The Winnebago County Highway Commission would like to remind you of the following so everyone gets home safe at night:

1. Eliminate distractions like eating, drinking, or talking on the phone.
2. Slow down. A car traveling 60 mph travels 88 feet per second, and the faster you go the longer it takes to stop.
3. Give yourself room. Rear-end collisions are the most common work zone crashes, so don't tailgate.
4. Look for signs. Orange, diamond-shaped signs usually give you ample warning of lane closures, construction areas and other workers ahead.
5. 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.
6. Follow the law. Slow down and move over, if possible, when you see flashing lights. Wisconsin's "Move Over Law" states: Drivers must provide a safety zone for stopped law enforcement, emergency and maintenance vehicles.

The law requires drivers to shift lanes or slow down in order to provide a "safety zone" for a squad car, ambulance, fire truck, tow truck, utility vehicle, or highway maintenance vehicle that is stopped on the side of a road with its warning lights flashing.

Drivers have two options for creating a safety zone:

- If the road has more than one directional lane, like the Interstate, and you can switch lanes safely, you must move over to vacate the lane closest to the law enforcement or other vehicle with its lights flashing.
- If the road has a single directional lane or you can't safely move over, you must reduce your speed.