



FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE

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Florida's Turnpike Offers Important Hurricane Evacuation Tips

(FORT LAUDERDALE)- In case your personal hurricane evacuation plans include a trip on Florida's Turnpike, The Florida Department of Transportation offers the following tips to help make sure your journey is as safe, convenient and as speedy as possible:

- Make sure your vehicle is fueled up and well serviced before you hit the road. Fuel availability may be questionable and what is available is sure to generate extremely long lines at Turnpike service plazas.
- Carry a supply of food and water for each member of the traveling party.
- Do not necessarily wait to evacuate until after the announcement is made that Turnpike tolls have been suspended. Tolls are often suspended in conjunction with mandatory evacuation orders which may come only after the threat of a hurricane is imminent. Consider paying the toll and leaving early when traffic is much lighter.
- During toll suspensions, continue to have cash available at all times. Just because tolls are suspended on one segment of the Turnpike does not mean they are suspended system wide. When you approach a plaza at which the tolls are suspended, SLOW DOWN and be conscious of other motorists.
- Have a specific destination in mind and the route planned well in advance of your departure. When you travel be sure to carry any appropriate maps along inside your vehicle.
- When possible evacuate tens of miles instead of hundreds of miles.
- Please pack a lot of patience and be prepared for delays. Significant traffic delays are inevitable in a state as densely populated as Florida. Again, it is important to try and avoid the rush and depart earlier rather than later.

- In the event of the approach of a major hurricane that requires a mass evacuation of south Florida, The Governor and emergency management officials may order the Turnpike to reverse the south bound lanes and operate a segment of the Turnpike as a one way north bound evacuation route. If this so called 'contra flow' plan is enacted, please make note of the hours it will be in effect and go to www.floridasturnpike.com where you can review and print out details about the plan.
- Getting back after the storm: If out of the area, be sure to stock up on any items that might be in short supply in the storm affected area. Consider getting extra cash at a working ATM. Fuel up prior to getting to an area that might have limited availability due to power outages. Follow any emergency instructions that may be displayed on the Turnpike's overhead dynamic message signs.



Florida's Turnpike Enterprise is part of the Florida Department of Transportation, overseeing a 454-mile system of limited-access toll highways: the Turnpike Mainline, extending north from Homestead in Miami-Dade County to Wildwood in Sumter County, the Seminole Expressway and Southern Connector (Toll 417) in Seminole, Orange and Osceola Counties, the Beachline Expressway West (Toll 528) in Orange County, the Polk Parkway (Toll 570) in Polk County, the Veterans Expressway and Suncoast Parkway in Hillsborough, Pasco and Hernando Counties (Toll 589), and the Sawgrass Expressway (Toll 869) in Broward County, the Daniel Webster Western Beltway Part C (Toll 429) in Orange County.

SunPass is the Florida Department of Transportation's innovative Prepaid Toll Program. SunPass can be used on Florida's toll roads and most toll bridges. SunPass customers typically pay 25 cents less than cash customers at most toll plazas and exits on Turnpike roads. For information on SunPass®, please contact 1-888-TOLL-FLA (865-5352).

While traveling in the Orlando, South Florida and Tampa Bay regions, motorists should call 511 for real-time regional traffic information. In the Orlando and Tampa Bay regions, the information system is voice-activated. In South Florida, callers must enter a code number for traffic conditions on Florida's Turnpike. Enter 8211* for Palm Beach County, 8212* for Broward County, and 8213* for Miami-Dade County. Motorists may also visit <http://www.fl511.com> for information. This free service of the Florida Department of Transportation is available 24/7.