

Incident Management

Highway incidents include crashes, disabled or abandoned vehicles, road debris, work zones and other emergencies. These often have substantial direct costs such as death, injury and property damage. However, many motorists do not consider the impact of *secondary costs* such as traveler delay, reduced productivity, increased costs of goods and services, increased fuel consumption and air pollution and secondary crashes.

What if I'm involved in an incident?

Kentucky has a **Quick Clearance Law** (KRS 189.580) meaning:

If you are involved in a crash:

- If no one is visibly injured, move the vehicle to the shoulder or off the interstate or parkway
- Call police
- Exchange information

If you have a disabled vehicle:

- Move the vehicle off the roadway if possible and stay in the vehicle
- Turn on emergency flashers
- Tie something white or bright to the antenna or window, or raise the hood, to request aid
- If unable to move the vehicle from the roadway, stand away from the vehicle

How do I safely pass an incident?

Kentucky has a **Move Over Law** (KRS 189.930) meaning:

When an emergency vehicle is stopped on the side of the road:

- Move to the next lane
- Slow down if changing lanes is not possible
- Use caution and watch for workers and/or emergency personnel
- Stay alert and minimize distractions



Emergency vehicles display yellow, red, red and white, red and blue, or blue lights. This includes police, fire, and EMS, as well as construction vehicles, tow trucks and other public safety vehicles.



Secondary crashes, which occur as a result of a previous crash, account for 20 percent of all crashes. With vehicles traveling at highway speeds coming to an abrupt stop, not only is safety a concern at the scene, but also traffic back-up. Secondary crashes are often greater than that of the original incident.

Know before you go!

Check out goky.ky.gov or use the free [WAZE app](#) for traffic alerts, construction activity and roadway weather conditions.



See a road hazard? Report it!

You can directly inform the Transportation Cabinet of highway hazards in your area. Call the Highway Hazard Hotline at 1-877-FOR-KYTC (1-877-367-5982) with the location of the problem, name or number of the state highway, and milepoint or landmark. Or, go to transportation.ky.gov and click on "Contact." Select "Report a Hazard" in the dropdown menu.

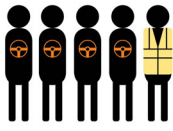
Get the facts! The dangers in work zones

BE WORK
ZONE ALERT



One person dies every 13 hours and one person is injured every 13 minutes in a work zone in the United States. *Source: Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)*

NATIONAL WORK ZONE STATISTICS



4/5

victims in work zone
crashes are motorists,
not highway workers

Source: Federal Highway Administration

Four out of five victims in work zone crashes are motorists, not highway workers, which is why it is particularly important for drivers to remain alert while going through work zones. *Source: FHWA*

In a typical five-day work week, an average of seven motorists and one worker are killed. *Source: FHWA*

A MESSAGE FROM THE KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET | TRANSPORTATION.KY.GOV

Drive safely through work zones



- Expect the unexpected. Work zone configurations can change without notice.
- Pay attention. Don't text or talk on the phone and avoid taking your hands off the wheel.
- Watch for speed limit reductions, narrowing lanes, changing traffic patterns, and – most importantly – highway workers.
- Be patient. Keep in mind, driving 45 mph instead of 55 mph through a five-mile work zone will only add 1.2 minutes to your trip. Speeding and aggressive driving is a major cause of work zone crashes, injuries and fatalities.
- Keep a safe distance on all sides of your vehicles and maintain a safe following distance. Rear-end collisions are the most common type of work zone crash.
- Respect the flaggers and obey their guidance. A flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, so you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions.
- Stay calm. Remember that the construction crews are working to make the road better for you!

For additional information:

- **KYTC Division of Incident Management:** <https://transportation.ky.gov/IncidentManagement/Pages/default.aspx>
- **Traffic Incident Management Network:** <http://timnetwork.org/>
- **Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse:** www.workzonesafety.org