



Environmental Stewardship

Environmental, social, and energy conservation considerations are integral elements in transportation investments. Beyond the construction and maintenance of transportation projects IDOT is proactive in protecting and preserving the environment and maintaining or improving quality of life for Illinois residents. All transportation projects, involving the use of state and federal funds are required to follow formal procedures designed to protect the natural and social environment, this includes wetlands, plants, animals, air and water quality, archaeological and historic sites, agriculture, and communities.

IDOT strives to reduce or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and as appropriate to identify mitigation or remediation actions to achieve the best possible outcome during project development, design, and construction. Below are some of the actions IDOT has taken recently to be a good steward of Illinois' natural resources.

Did you know...

- IDOT's sign shops recycled and reused more than 50,000 aluminum road signs – reusing 470,000 tons of aluminum and saving over \$600,000 to date.
- IDOT installed a wind turbine at the Krisdala Baka Rest Area on the westbound side of I-74, near Woodhull in Henry County. The turbine is scheduled to be in operation by spring 2016.
- IDOT made 46 improvements to its facilities to support sustainability. Projects include: white roofing, upgrades to lighting, HVAC systems, electrical, plumbing and windows.
- In 2014, reclaimed and recycled materials used on Illinois highways totaled 1.6 million tons including:
 - 488,000 tons of recycled concrete materials
 - 987,000 tons of reclaimed asphalt pavement
 - 37,000 tons of reclaimed asphalt shingles
 - 16,500 tons of recycled steel
- In 2014, IDOT used more than \$58 million worth of recycled materials on projects, preventing an estimated 114,719 tons of carbon dioxide equivalents from entering the Troposphere (the lowest portion of the Earth's atmosphere).
- IDOT has three electric vehicles in its fleet.
- IDOT administers Illinois' the Safe Routes to School Program putting the department in a unique position to promote healthy alternatives to motorized transportation for school children.
- In 2014, 129 schools participated in the International Walk to School Day.
- In 2016, IDOT delivered 5,000 oak tree seedlings to schools across Illinois' through a partnership with the Living Lands and Waters Million Trees Project. IDOT has delivered nearly 45,000 tree seedlings over the years to be planted across the state.

