



State of Illinois
Bruce Rauner, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
Randall S. Blankenhorn, Secretary

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Stay Alert While Enjoying the Scenery

Illinois Department of Transportation and Illinois State Police remind Byway visitors to be vigilant during fall tourism season on the Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway

COLLINSVILLE – To make the Meeting of the Great Rivers National Scenic Byway a pleasurable and safe outing for everyone during the busy fall tourism season, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is embarking on several safety and maintenance improvements. IDOT will be adding additional signs and improving pavement markings along the stretch of the Byway, also known as the Great River Road, between Grafton and Alton.

“The Great River Road is one of the great treasures of our state,” said Illinois Transportation Secretary Randy Blankenhorn. “At IDOT, we are proud to showcase our state, but we also want to do all we can to make sure people are watching out for one another on the roads and getting to where they need to go safely.”

Every year, the Byway’s abundant autumn colors and spectacular scenery attracts thousands of visitors and sightseers, including numerous bicyclists and motorcyclists, as well as motorists, who are new to the area. On the road that navigates the narrow stretch of land between towering cliffs and the Mississippi River, IDOT will display digital message boards cautioning Byway visitors to remain alert and will repaint stripes and bike trail symbols along the shared roadway.

In addition, Illinois State Police and local law enforcement will step up enforcement in the area.

“While you’re enjoying the spectacular views on the Great River Road, please remember to be alert for motorcycles on the roadway and bicyclists and pedestrians using the nearby paths,” said Illinois State Police Director Leo Schmitz. “By staying alert, everyone will be able to enjoy the beautiful fall scenery.”

In October, IDOT will be removing brush and making repairs to the surface to the Sam Vadalabene Bike Trail with limited disruption to cyclists and pedestrians.