



# The WisDOT Connector *Express*

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## **June a peak month for deer/vehicle crashes**

Motorists are being cautioned to keep a sharp eye out for deer. While fall is a common season to spot deer along roadways, June typically ranks as the worst or second worst month for motorist injuries from deer crashes. Motorcyclists need to be especially alert. A total of 14 people died in Wisconsin deer/vehicle crashes last year - 10 of them were motorcyclists.

## **Slowing down can save money and lives**

Motorists looking for relief from record-high gas prices have at least one simple solution at hand – or more specifically – under their foot. Gas mileage decreases rapidly at speeds over 60 mph - with each 5 mph over costing an estimated additional 20 cents per gallon. And there are other costs associated with speeding such as the risk of an expensive citation, and the fact that speeding is a common factor in traffic crashes, injuries and deaths. It's estimated that someone is injured or killed in a speed-related crash in Wisconsin every 51 minutes.

## **CMAQ awards announced**

Governor Jim Doyle has announced \$23.2 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality awards that will help fund 20 transportation-related projects in southeastern Wisconsin's ozone non-attainment and maintenance areas over the next three years. WisDOT administers the federal awards that can fund traffic flow improvement projects, new bicycle and pedestrian facilities, enhanced public transit services, and other air quality-related transportation improvements. More information on the program and the projects funded can be found on the WisDOT Web site at:

[www.dot.wisconsin.gov/opencms/export/nr/modules/news/news\\_0731.html](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/opencms/export/nr/modules/news/news_0731.html) [786229440.html](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/opencms/export/nr/modules/news/news_786229440.html).

## **Roundabouts growing in popularity**

Roundabouts are an increasingly common form of intersection in Wisconsin - and for good reason: research indicates that roundabouts can significantly reduce crashes and injuries while enhancing traffic flow. Studies by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety show that roundabouts can reduce fatal traffic crashes by 90% and injury crashes by over 75%. Wisconsin has some 30 roundabouts on the state highway system while nearly 30 others have been incorporated into municipal improvement projects. Motorists may find driving a roundabout a bit tricky at first, but drivers typically adjust quickly. More information including tips on driving roundabouts can be found on the WisDOT Web site at: [www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/roaddesign/roundabout-works.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/roaddesign/roundabout-works.htm)

## **Staying open for business throughout construction**

Road construction can be inconvenient for motorists and can impact businesses as well. WisDOT's "In this Together" program provides strategies and case studies designed to help communities and businesses minimize construction-related economic impacts. "In this Together" is one of the many programs highlighted on WisDOT's "Programs for Local Government" Web site ([www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/)).

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