

VOL. 2, ISSUE 2 • SPRING 2026

TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

Indiana TIM Quarterly Newsletter



The Indianapolis 500

The 110th running of the Indianapolis 500 is set to take place on May 24, 2026. The location is in Indiana’s capitol, Indianapolis. Known as “the greatest spectacle in racing,” the event pits 33 drivers for the top spot. The “500” designation refers to the 500 miles, or 200 laps, that the drivers race around a 2.5-mile oval track. The event attracts 300,000 attendees and continues to grow.

The start of the race is known for its famous opening line, “Gentlemen, start your engines.” The end of the race is known for the winner drinking a celebratory bottle of milk in Victory Lane.

For more information:
<https://www.indianapolismotorspeedway.com>

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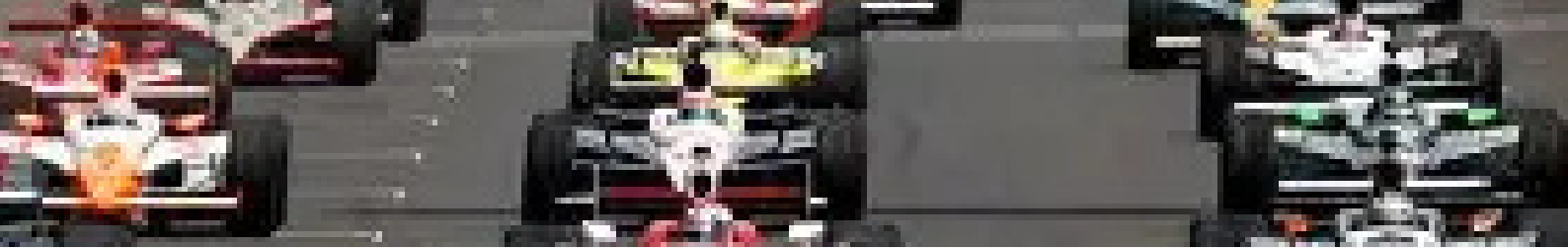
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500 Signs Assist Incident Managers at Indy 500

INDOT's Traffic Management team members work race day in the Pagoda's Public Safety Command, where they monitor hundreds of closed-circuit television cameras and overall traffic on the central Indiana interstate system.

As congestion occurs on the interstates and the ramps leading to the track, the Traffic Management team will change traffic patterns using permanent and portable dynamic message boards. Traffic information is also distributed in real time through INDOT TrafficWise application, public web pages, email distribution lists, local media, as well as other partners that distribute traffic information.



Photo: <https://indymotorspeedway.com>

Traffic for the Indy 500 involves not only INDOT staff but hundreds of law enforcement officers from a multitude of agencies. INDOT makes these changes and also coordinates with law enforcement to make sure proposed changes fit the overall traffic plan for the event. Traffic planning begins months before the race and continues to be refined and improved each year.

All Indy 500-related signs are located in the Indianapolis area. Inbound messages focus on getting fans to the track. Outbound messages are geared to explaining what exits are closed and to expect heavy traffic on I-465.

Traffic Management is not the only group of INDOT employees involved with race day, when an estimated 300,000 plus fans hit the roads to reach – and then leave – the speedway. Our Hoosier Helper patrols concentrate efforts on Indianapolis' west side on race day.



Photo: <https://wallpapercave.com>

Click on the link below to find out more information on managing the traffic for the Indy 500:

Credit: <https://www.in.gov/indot/div/newsletters/May2024/INDY-F.pdf>



NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK APRIL 20-24, 2026

National Work Zone Awareness Week is a week to acknowledge and raise awareness for work zone safety and ALL roadway workers, pedestrians, and motorists. This year's theme was "Safe Action Save Lives." In 2025 alone, Indiana Work Zones saw 6,773 crashes, with 1,507 injuries, and 16 fatalities.

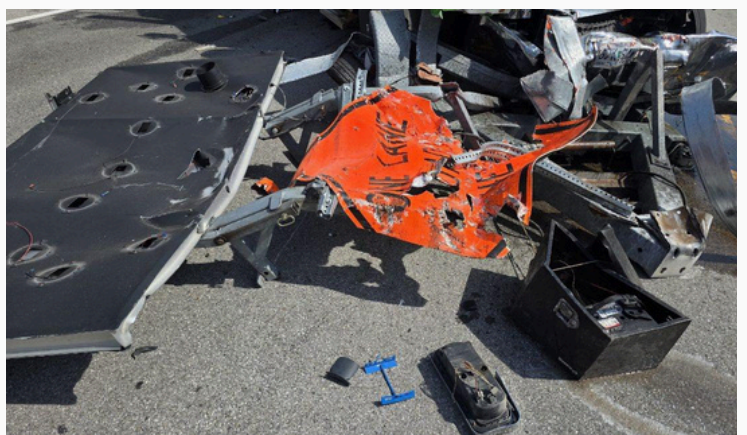
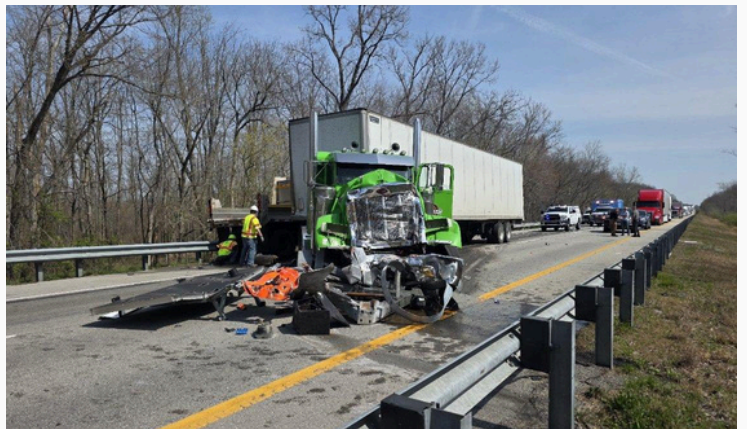
This year's event was hosted by the Connecticut Department of Transportation. The week-long event kicked off Mon. April 20th, with each day representing a different awareness.

For more information:
<https://www.nwzaw.org/>

INDOT TRUCK STRUCK IN WORK ZONE

WARRICK COUNTY, INDIANA MARCH 25, 2026

An INDOT truck in a work zone was struck by a semi on Wednesday, March 25, 2026. The incident occurred on Interstate 64, east of Interstate 69. The INDOT vehicle was set up with an arrow board and trailer mounted attenuator (TMA) at the time of the incident. The workers were out of the truck at the time. No injuries were reported from workers or semi driver. This incident underscores the importance of proper work zone set ups, safety equipment, and situational awareness.





Project Greenlight Keeps INDOT Workers Safe

The Indiana Department of Transportation is implementing Project Greenlight to improve worker visibility on Indiana's roadways.

The initiative equips workers with a wearable Guardian Angel LED safety light in the color green. The color green was selected due to its increased visibility at longer distances and its distinction from conventional work zone colors. When worn in combination with a safety vest, the lights are 89% more visible to passing motorists.

The program was pilot-tested beginning in 2025 with Hoosier Helpers workers in various parts of the state. When complete, over 375 Guardian Angel lights will be distributed to INDOT workers throughout the state of Indiana.



INDIANA WORK ZONE CRASH STATISTICS

- Over the past 10 years, 269 people have been killed in work zones on Indiana roadways
- 4 out of 5 people injured or killed in work zones are drivers or their passengers
- Most fatal work zone crashes occur with speed limits greater than 50mph
- Rear end crashes are the most common type of crashes

INDIANA'S WORK ZONE SAFETY LAW

Indiana's Work Zone Safety Law enforces penalties for motorists speeding through established work zones. First time citations for violations are \$300. Second offense is \$500. Third offense within three years is \$1,000. Motorists who drive aggressively through work zones can face a citation of up to \$5,000. Should a worker be killed or injured by a motorist in a work zone, the motorist faces a \$10,000 fine and up to 6 years in jail.

For more information:
<https://www.in.gov/indot/safety/work-zone-safety/>



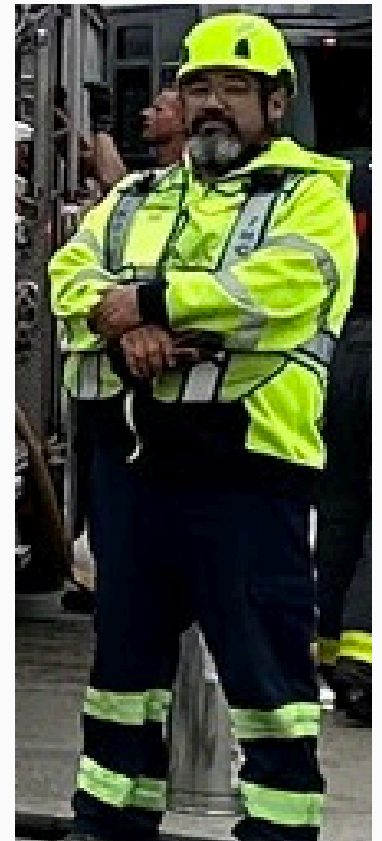
HOOSIER HELPER HAPPENINGS: NEW SAFETY INITIATIVE

Indiana's Safety Service Patrol, Hoosier Helpers, recently implemented head protection for all employees working the roadways. Effective March 2026, employees are to wear helmets when out of their vehicle on an incident scene. The ASTM E3422/E3422M-24 "Standard Specification for Protective Helmets Worn by Pedestrian Roadway Workers" was established in 2024 and provides guidance on helmet qualifications and specifications. The standard is now in place for fire, EMS, law enforcement, and other agencies working the roadways.

The standard originally was developed due to a tragedy in Lubbock, Texas, in 2020. While operating at a crash scene, Lubbock Fire Rescue Lt. Eric Hill, Firefighter Matt Dawson, and Police Officer Matthew Nicholas Reyna were killed when a van struck their scene. Ever since that incident, fellow public safety has worked tirelessly to establish a standard for head protection for all responders on the roadways.

For more information:

<https://www.respondersafety.com/news/news/2024/08/new-helmet-standard-specifically-for-roadway-responses-published/>



HOOSIER HELPER LUIS FLORES IN HELMET: INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA



FUTURE TIM TRAININGS

- 5/09/26-DUBOIS CO.
- 5/11/26-CASS CO.
- 5/13/26-LAKE CO.
- 5/16/26-WHITLEY CO.
- 5/19/26-MARSHALL CO.
- 5/21/26-JASPER CO.
- 5/23/26-MORGAN CO.
- 5/28/26-ELKHART CO.
- 5/28/26-ELKHART CO.
- 6/02/26-LAPORTE CO.
- 6/03/26-LAPORTE CO.

TO SCHEDULE A 4-HOUR TIM TRAINING, E-MAIL US AT:
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