SLOW DOWN MOVE OVER

For ALL Roadside Workers

MoveOver.Ohio.Gov

ABOUT OHIO'S MOVE OVER LAW

Ohio's Move Over Law requires motorists to cautiously shift over one lane – or slow down if it is not possible to change lanes – when driving by any vehicle with flashing lights on the side of a road. Its purpose is to protect everyone who works on our roads and everyone who travels on them.

WHY THE LAW IS IMPORTANT

Across the U.S., roadside accidents kill one tow truck driver every six days, 23 highway workers and one law enforcement officer every month and five firefighters every year. In Ohio, thousands of workers build, maintain, serve and protect on our roadways every day—all in the interest of the public. Therefore, it is also in the public's interest to protect roadside workers by observing the Move Over Law.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Move Over Law?

Ohio's Move Over Law is designed to protect the lives of everyone who uses our roadways. The law requires all drivers to move over one lane passing by any vehicle with flashing or rotating lights parked on the roadside.

The original law took effect in 2004 to reduce risk to law-enforcement officers, emergency responders and tow operators. It was expanded in December 2013 to apply to every stationary vehicle with flashing lights, including road construction, maintenance and utility crews.

What if I can't move over?

The law recognizes that sometimes it is not safe or possible to move over because of traffic or weather conditions or because a second lane does not exist. In those situations, slow down and proceed with caution. Watch for people or objects that could enter your travel lane, and be prepared to stop.

How does the Move Over law differ from yielding the right of way to emergency vehicles?

Yielding the right of way to an emergency responder requires you as a driver to pull to the right-hand side of the road and stop when a police or other law-enforcement officer, fire truck, ambulance or other emergency vehicle approaches using a siren, lights or other warning devices. You must wait until the emergency responder(s) has passed by before you can resume driving.

How serious is the problem?

Across the nation, hundreds of people are killed or injured every year when they're struck by a vehicle after pulling over to the side of the road or highway. On average, these "struck-by" crashes kill one tow-truck driver every six days; 23 highway workers and one law-enforcement officer every month; and five firefighters every year. Tragically, stranded motorists are also struck and killed.

Can I be cited for failing to comply with the Move Over law?

Yes, and it's so serious that fines are doubled. Violators are fined 2x$150 for the first violation (a minor misdemeanor), 2x$250 for the same violation within a year of the first, and 2x$500 for more than two violations in a year.

What types of roadways does the law apply to?

Ohio's Move Over law applies to all interstates and state highways. It can be enforced by any law-enforcement officer, including state highway patrol officers, local police, and county sheriff's deputies.

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STATE OF OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Ohio's NEW Move Over Law requires motorists to move over or slow down for ALL roadside workers.

Why Move Over?
Because across the nation, in roadside accidents...

1 tow truck driver is killed every six days.

23 highway workers and 1 law enforcement officer is killed every month.

6 firefighters are killed every year.

Move Over for Safety. Every Worker, Every Time.

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