

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Carol A. Murray, Commissioner

For Immediate Release

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**E-ZPASS ELECTRONIC TOLLING TO BEGIN JULY 11 AT THREE NH PLAZAS
HOOKSETT MAIN, HOOKSETT RAMP AND BEDFORD TOLL FACILITIES**

Motorists enrolled in the E-ZPass program can begin experiencing the benefits of electronic tolling at three plazas on the New Hampshire Turnpike System on Monday, July 11, 2005. E-ZPass transactions will begin at 5:00 am at the Hooksett mainline and the Hooksett ramps on Interstate 93 and at Bedford Toll on the Everett Turnpike. E-ZPass will be phased in at all other New Hampshire Turnpike System plazas over the next few weeks. The goal is to have E-ZPass operational at all New Hampshire Turnpike Plazas by Labor Day.

Those who have signed up for New Hampshire's E-ZPass program should begin receiving their transponders for their vehicles in the mail this week. These transponders can be used starting on July 11 in New Hampshire and at all other E-ZPass compatible locations, including toll facilities from Maine to Virginia, except at those New Hampshire locations that have yet to be activated. As of July 5, a total of 33,720 New Hampshire E-Z Pass accounts had been set up, with transponder orders totaling 64,247.

Motorists approaching the Hooksett and Bedford Toll Plazas and seeking to use E-ZPass will have the options of a dedicated "E-ZPass cars only" lane in the center of the plaza, or mixed mode lanes to the right of each plaza that will accept E-ZPass, cash or New Hampshire Turnpike tokens. Commercial trucks using E-ZPass must use the mixed mode lanes. Those motorists with E-ZPass transponders who wish to use the token or cash options should place their transponders in the provided foil pouches to avoid an E-ZPass transaction. Lanes to the left of each plaza will be reserved for exact change lanes. Purple signs with the E-ZPass logo will identify which lanes will accept E-ZPass transactions. The speed limit at the "E-ZPass only" lane will be 10 MPH.

Motorists are reminded that toll attendants cross lanes frequently, and that extreme caution is urged when traveling through any toll lane that accepts E-ZPass.

Those interested in New Hampshire's E-ZPass program can go enroll on the internet at www.ezpassnh.com, or can sign up over the phone at 1-877-643-9727 (1-877-NHEZPAS). Walk-in signup locations (M-F 10:00 am to 6:00 pm) are also located right after the Hooksett Tolls northbound, at the Nashua Welcome Center off Exit 6 of the Everett Turnpike and at the I-95 northbound Welcome Center in Seabrook.

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