

WORK ZONE

SAFETY AWARENESS



APRIL 9–13 IS NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK. As lineworkers and road crews do their jobs to help the community, your electric co-op asks drivers to do their part to keep workers, themselves and their passengers safe when driving through work zones.

When driving through a work zone or past a line crew, remember workers are doing their job. What they're doing is simply to help you. We can help keep workers, other drivers, passengers and ourselves safe by following these tips:

- Increase your alertness when you approach and enter a work zone.
- Pay attention to warning signs and flaggers. Watch for speed limit reductions, narrowing lanes, changing traffic patterns, and – most importantly – highway workers.
- Don't speed or tailgate in and around work zones. Respect the posted speed limits and safely merge as soon and as safely possible. This will allow traffic to flow smoothly.
- Avoid distractions such as talking or texting on the phone, changing your radio station, eating, or drinking when approaching or in work zones. Don't take your hands off the wheel!
- Keep your attention on the road, not on what the workers are doing.
- Turn your headlights on to make your vehicle more visible to workers and other drivers.
- Watch for brake lights or slow moving vehicles.
- Keep in mind: Driving 45 mph, instead of 55 mph, through a 5 mile work zone will only add 1.2 minutes to your trip. Speeding and aggressive driving are major causes of work zone crashes.
- Respect the flaggers and obey their guidance. Be patient when driving through work sites with flagger control.
- Expect delays and allow extra travel time to travel through work zones.
- Select alternate routes if possible to avoid the work zone completely.
- Be patient and stay calm. Remember the crews are working to make the road better for you!

