

For more information on Merge Left or other programs of either the Tennessee Department of Transportation or the Tennessee Department of Safety contact:

Tennessee Department of Transportation TDOT Community Relations Division 615.741.2331 Tennessee.gov/tdot or Tennessee Department of Safety Safety Education Office 615.232.2901 Tennessee.gov/safety

> To Comment: 1-877-SmartWay or

TDOT.Comments@state.tn.us





## NERGE EARLY

A New Idea to Improve Tennessee Work Zones

Tennessee Department of Transportation Tennessee Department of Safety

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In Tennessee, we're always trying to make things better. That's why we have a new way to travel through our interstate highway work zones to improve flow and safety: MERGE LEFT and MERGE EARLY.

## Here's how Merge Left works.



At the very first highway sign advising of a work zone, begin merging to the left lane as quickly as possible. Do not try to gain position by speeding ahead in the right lane.

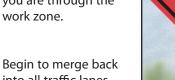


Get in single file with all other vehicles in the left lane.



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Stay in single file until you are through the work zone.











## A few important things to remember:

- You must have completed your merge when you reach the sign that reads, "Do Not Pass In Right Lane" or you can be ticketed.
- For every second that one car is forced to slow or stop for a last-chance merger, the entire line of traffic behind it is delayed multiple times over.
- A last-chance merger can increase delays and may cause collisions resulting in injuries or death.
- A late merger can be ticketed by a Tennessee State Trooper or other law enforcement officer for violation of the "No Passing Zone".
- You may also be ticketed for following too closely, speeding, failure to obey a required traffic control device or failure to use lanes properly.