

GIVE LINE CREWS ROOM TO WORK: *It's the law*



National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 26-30. We remind motorists to be careful around the men and women whose jobs put them along roadways and into harm's way. Electric cooperative line crews also work along the roadsides.

When motorists see the orange diamond-shaped work zone warning signs and vehicles with the flashing amber lights, they should **slow down and prepare for the zone ahead.**

Indiana law requires motorists to approach cautiously and change lanes away from emergency vehicles if they can do so safely. If not, they should reduce their speed to 10 mph under the posted speed limit and proceed with caution. Do not stop in the roadway; this may cause a chain reaction rear-end collision with other vehicles.

Emergency vehicles protected by the law include police vehicles, ambulances, fire trucks and rescue equipment, highway incident-response vehicles, highway maintenance vehicles, utility service vehicles and tow trucks.



AVOID DOWNED POWER LINES



If you see a downed power line, the first step is to move away from it and anything touching it. *Keep a distance of 35 feet. The ground around downed power lines may be energized. If you are in a car, stay put.*

HERE ARE SOME OTHER BASIC TIPS FOR SAFETY:

- If you see someone in direct or indirect contact with a downed line, **DO NOT touch him or her.** Call 911 for assistance.
- **NEVER attempt to move a downed power line** or anything else in contact with it using an object such as a broom or stick.
- If your vehicle comes in contact with a downed power line while you're in the vehicle, **stay inside the car.** Call 911 or honk your horn to get help. Tell bystanders to stay away from the vehicle.
- If you must exit the vehicle for life-threatening reasons, such as if the car has caught on fire — **jump out and clear from it, making sure to land with your feet together.** Do not touch the car and the ground at the same time. Shuffle away with your feet touching until you reach a safe distance.

