



State of Illinois
JB Pritzker, Governor



Illinois Department of Transportation
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Matthiessen State Park Dells area closes for reconstruction May 2

OTTAWA – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced today that the construction of the road and parking lot for the Dells area at Matthiessen State Park near Utica will begin on Monday, May 2. The work will close the Dells parking access during the project.

Work will resurface and reconstruct the road leading into the Matthiessen Dells area and its parking lot located near the junction of Illinois 178 and Illinois 71. Visitors are asked to park at the Matthiessen Vermilion River Area parking lots and follow signage leading them to Matthiessen Dells.

Visitors are discouraged from parking alongside park roads or along Illinois 178, as this is illegal and vehicles will be ticketed and towed. The \$1.3 million project is expected to be completed by late summer.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area and be prepared for slow and stopped traffic. To avoid the work area, when feasible, use of alternate routes should be considered. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to changed conditions and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits, refrain from using mobile devices, and be alert for workers and equipment.

Over the next six years, IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,535 miles of highway and 9 million square feet of bridge deck as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, which is investing \$33.2 billion into all modes of transportation. Accomplishments through Year Two included approximately \$5.2 billion in improvements statewide on 3,020 miles of highway and 270 bridges along with 428 additional safety improvements.

For IDOT District 3 updates on Twitter, follow us at [@IDOTDistrict3](https://twitter.com/IDOTDistrict3). View area construction details on IDOT's traveler information map at www.GettingAroundIllinois.com.

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