It’s the law in Wisconsin

If you see a stopped emergency or maintenance vehicle with its emergency lights flashing, move over or slow down.
Move Over or Slow Down for Emergency Flashing Lights

One of the most dangerous places for emergency responders and maintenance personnel is along the side of the road. Each year hundreds of these hard working men and women are injured or killed by passing motorists while working along the nation’s highways. In 2001, Wisconsin passed a law designed to protect law enforcement officers, emergency responders, tow operators and highway maintenance personnel who are conducting business on Wisconsin’s roadways.

It is called the Move Over Law, and the concept is simple. If you see a vehicle on the side of the road with its emergency lights flashing, you are required to move out of the lane closest to the vehicle if possible. If a safe lane change is not possible, or you are traveling on a two lane roadway, you are required to slow your vehicle, maintaining a safe speed for traffic conditions, and drive at a reduced speed until completely past the vehicle.

“Our troopers, maintenance workers and others who work on busy highways take every possible precaution to avoid getting hit by vehicles,” says Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary Frank J. Busalacchi. “But we need help from every driver on the highway. When motorists obey the Move Over Law and create a safety zone, they reduce the dangers to themselves and those who work along our highways.”

Not moving over can be painful. If you get a ticket, you will be assessed three demerit points on your license and a $249 fine. In addition, your driver’s license will be suspended if you are involved in a crash, and you may serve up to seven years in prison if you hurt or kill someone.

For more information, contact your local law enforcement agency or the Wisconsin State Patrol.
When drivers pass stopped emergency/maintenance vehicles, everyone’s safety is at risk

**MOVE OVER OR SLOW DOWN**

**On a 4-lane roadway ...**

1. **Move over** a lane from the stopped vehicle(s) until you’re safely past.
2. If you can’t change lanes, **slow down** and maintain a **safe speed** for traffic conditions.

**On a 2-lane roadway ...**

1. **Slow down** and maintain a **safe speed** for traffic conditions until you’re completely past the stopped vehicle(s).
Move Over or Slow Down
For Stopped Emergency / Maintenance Vehicles

Remember, the law applies to any emergency response or maintenance vehicle with its emergency lights flashing.

If you would like to obtain additional copies of this brochure please contact the Wisconsin Department of Transportation’s Statewide Traffic Operations Center at: (414) 227-2166