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TIME Program Manager

### Greetings from the at-home office!

Things have changed quite a bit in the last eight weeks. The terrible loss of life, illnesses and economic concerns have impacted every citizen of our great nation in some way or another.

One thing that hasn't changed is the dedication and courage of all the first responders. They are truly "essential" workers. They don't have the option to say, "I'm going to work from home today." When the call comes in, the bells go off. When that request for assistance is made, they respond, no matter what.

Even during a pandemic, people still do bad things that require a law enforcement response. Houses and businesses still burn, and people still call for medical assistance. Vehicles still must be removed from the road after crashes, and roads and infrastructure must be repaired when

damaged. All this work is done not knowing who or what you, the responder, are going to come in contact with and possibly without having the time to take the necessary precautions to protect yourself.

We don't forget all the other essential workers, especially our health care professionals. God bless every one of them. They have been in the trenches fighting the good fight every day for more than three months. There are the clerks and other workers at every grocery store, gas station, restaurant or any other business that is open and essential for the rest as we try to fill the basic needs in our lives. We can't thank you enough.

Thankfully, we see the light at the end of the tunnel. If we, as good Wisconsinites, always do, listen to our medical experts on what to do and when we can continue to slowly open our great state to more commerce and recreation and restart the economic engine that was roaring just months ago.

I think all of us long for the day when we can gather in the backyard with friends and family, with some brats on the grill, a beverage in hand, and a Brewer game playing in the background. That is part of the Wisconsin way of life. So, hang in there. We will all get through this together. Please stay healthy and safe!

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## Because of Our Training, the Only Casualty Was Our Blocking Vehicle. TIM Works!

By: Mike Folgert, Fire Chief, Town of Peshtigo Fire Department

Tragedy was averted on an icy Halloween morning along U.S. Hwy 41 near Peshtigo when a Town of Peshtigo fire truck was struck and damaged while set-up for lane blocking at a previous crash scene.



The Town of Peshtigo Fire Department, Marinette EMS and several Marinette County Sheriff deputies were dispatched at 6:53 am on October 31, 2019, to a single-vehicle rollover crash in the northbound lanes of Hwy 41 near the Peshtigo River bridge. As the ambulance and our fire engine arrived on scene, we found two injured patients inside a pickup truck that had rolled over several times, coming to rest on the shoulder and partially sticking out into lane 2. Our engine crew immediately began to set up hydraulic extrication equipment in order to free one trapped patient. Following standard operating procedures, our second fire truck, a large water tender, arrived on scene and immediately set up behind the engine, an ambulance and a squad car to block lane 2 to protect emergency responders. A third fire truck, as well as another squad car, were positioned for early warning well before the crash scene.

Just as the two firefighters exited the tender and began to set up traffic cones, one firefighter suddenly heard the screeching of tires and, with cones still in hand, had to jump out of the way, nearly being hit by an oncoming pickup truck. The oncoming truck had failed to slow down, striking another vehicle from behind, pushing that vehicle into the bridge wall, then slamming into the fire truck. Fortunately, no further injuries resulted from this secondary crash, but the complexity of this rather simple call just exploded.

Most importantly, the fire truck did its job as a blocking vehicle, absorbing much of the impact and protecting other responders from being injured. At least one squad car parked directly in front of the engine was spared from having any damage, not to mention the engine and ambulance crews working to extricate the driver from the first crash were also spared any harm.



The firefighter who escaped with a near miss later told me how the only thing that saved him, besides his long legs, was the constant reminders to “keep your head on a swivel,” “never trust oncoming cars,” and “never turn your back on traffic.” He admitted that he always questioned when told to walk backward to face oncoming traffic while laying out traffic cones but no more. He claimed this advice saved his life!

We have previously hosted traffic incident management training and have taken its messages to heart. High speed crashes along U.S. Hwy 41 are no stranger to us, and we have experienced numerous close calls. This time we only had to fix up a fire truck. Are we all ready and prepared for the next time?

## TIM is Now a Requirement For Firefighters I Certification



Prior to this, law enforcement was the only discipline that required TIM training as part of their basic training curriculum. Now the fire service is also requiring TIM as part of their Firefighter I certification requirements. This is great news!

### Wisconsin Technical College System Fire Service Education and Training Update

By: Angela White, Fire Service Education Director

Firefighters fill a critical role in their response to incidents on Wisconsin's roadways, providing apparatus for blocking, equipment and personnel for traffic control and other scene safety measures to protect responders and citizens. Traffic Incident Management (TIM) response is a collaborative and integrated response by the Fire Service with Law Enforcement, EMS and other private agencies. The Fire Service must train firefighters to be situationally aware of the hazards that exist when responding to incidents on roadways, in addition to providing operational efficiencies to clear incidents.

In accordance, The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Fire Service Education & Training Office now includes a lesson on Traffic Incident Management (TIM) as part of the Entry Level Firefighter course and Firefighter I certification coursework. Students may complete online modules from [www.respondersafety.com](http://www.respondersafety.com) or training through the Wisconsin DOT's Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) program to satisfy the requirements of this lesson. Please visit <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/about-wisdot/who-we-are/dtsd/bto/stoc/tim-training.aspx> to find more information on how to request a TIM class at your location or contact David Spakowicz directly at [david.spakowicz@dot.wi.gov](mailto:david.spakowicz@dot.wi.gov) for more information.

As is always the case, I encourage you to visit our website to familiarize yourself with all the opportunities that are available through the WTCS Fire Service Education Office. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me regarding any fire training thoughts, concerns, or ideas.

Email: [angela.white@wtcsystem.edu](mailto:angela.white@wtcsystem.edu)

Phone: 608-266-7289

Web: <http://mywtcs.wtcsystem.edu/fire-service>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Wlfiretraining](http://www.facebook.com/Wlfiretraining)

Twitter: @Wlfiretraining

## Railroads Offer Training Opportunities to First Responders

By: Russ Kollmansberger, Special Agent, CN Police

About every three hours across the United States, a person or a vehicle is struck by a train. Our nation's first responders are called to action when one of these incidents occurs, but these events are extremely unique. Here are some ways these incidents will challenge your emergency response plan:

- Scene may encompass a large area (trains can take a mile or more to stop in an emergency)
- Potential for secondary incidents involving derailments and hazardous material spills
- Regular traffic may need to be diverted as a lengthy train may split an entire community
- Access to the scene may be blocked or limited
- Communications may become impacted as dispatch centers become inundated with calls from witnesses, citizens impacted by reduced travel abilities, and multiple first responder disciplines are communicating with a central dispatch; Not to mention, all other normal operations for the dispatch center must continue

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## Railroads Offer Training Opportunities to First Responders

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In Wisconsin, we have been fortunate over the past few months with reduced freight rail, and civilian transportation, the opportunity for train-related incidents has been drastically reduced. As our country begins to resume its way of life before the COVID-19 pandemic, citizens will return to daily (or more regular) travel, and freight rail traffic will increase as businesses open up and require more goods to be delivered. The risk of these incidents will rise, and you may be called upon to help your community during one.

On the scene of a train-related incident, numerous dangers potentially await first responders. Planning, including training, is your best option to keep yourself safe at a train-related incident. Railroad Police and other responders from the railroad are dispatched to partner with your agencies when these events occur. An objective for the Railroad Police is to provide training for first responders prior to these events to help your team be more prepared if it should happen.



To obtain training for your team, please visit [www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org), and click on 'Request a Safety Presentation' in the upper-right corner of the page. You may also reach out to your local Railroad Police Special Agent. In the meantime, the Federal Railroad Administration has developed a video to help with First Responder awareness. Although the video is labeled for "Law Enforcement," it contains critical information relevant to all First Responders and can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EVyjeCOI2as>. A corresponding video is available for Emergency Dispatchers at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S79UYj2xIzQ>.

## New 2020 Wisconsin Flaggers Handbook

Effective January 1, 2020, all flaggers working on Wisconsin State Highways performing roadway, maintenance, or utility work are required to be certified. The requirement is to ensure flaggers get the proper training to keep both themselves and the traveling public safe when performing their duties. Emergency flagging does not require a certified flagger be present; therefore, first responders assisting during a traffic incident do not need to be flagger certified. WisDOT encourages first responders to become familiar with proper flagging techniques.

The Flaggers Handbook was updated to provide better guidance to flaggers on how to perform their duties. WisDOT revised the flagger handbook to provide the following:

- images of the proper techniques to flagging,
- requirements for certification,
- use of Temporary Portable Rumble Strips (TPRS),
- updated Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements, and
- temporary traffic control layouts.



2020

**WISCONSIN  
FLAGGING  
HANDBOOK**



The Wisconsin Flaggers Handbook can be found at the following link in PDF form:

<https://wisconsin.gov/dtsdManuals/traffic-ops/manuals-and-standards/flagger.pdf>.

The Wisconsin Flaggers Handbook costs \$5.00 and can be purchased at the following link:

<https://docsales.wi.gov/Product.aspx?productId=1eeb5a53-4b2e-ea11-8118-0050568c7f0f>.

Training, Certification Requirements, FAQ's and other documentation can be found at the following link:

<https://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-bus/local-gov/traffic-ops/programs/workzone/workzone.aspx>.

## WisDOT Adjust Times in Work Zones to Accomplish More

By: Scott A. Nelson, P.E., WisDOT Traffic Engineer



Wisconsin’s Safer at Home order has dramatically changed our lives in many ways. Although this order has placed some restrictions that have completely changed our ways of doing business, it has provided WisDOT some unique opportunities to get critical maintenance activities done. Traffic volumes during peak travel times have diminished significantly, which is providing county maintenance crews the ability to complete work during the day that was previously only feasible during nighttime hours, expand the hours of when travel lanes can be closed, and closing lanes with less delay. In some areas, traffic volumes have decreased to nearly 50 percent of what they were in 2019!

In the WisDOT NE Region alone, we have been able to adjust work on 16 different maintenance projects. These adjustments include an expanded timeframe to complete the work, moving work from nighttime to daytime, allowing flagging operations instead of a detour and detouring routes that typically could not be detoured due to traffic volumes. The work types being completed include crack filling, pothole repair, concrete joint and pavement repair, gravel shouldering, and bridge repair such as slab jacking, concrete repairs and preventative epoxy overlays. The increased flexibility in maintaining the highways allows the work to be complete more efficiently, resulting in cost savings that can be used to treat additional maintenance needs. Daytime work and reduced traffic volumes have also provided safer work zones for the county work crews. In addition, by taking advantage of the lower traffic volumes, motorists will be less impacted by the traffic delays that typically would be expected by this work.

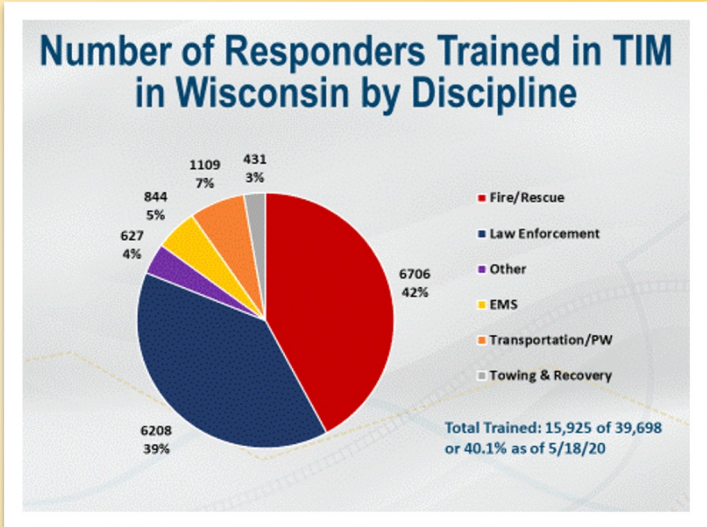
WisDOT is extremely fortunate to have a great partnership with county highway departments across the State of Wisconsin that is always eager to serve the public by keeping our roadways in the best possible condition. Through Wisconsin’s Safer at Home order, they have once again stepped up to the challenge of completing as much of the maintenance activities as possible while the traffic volumes are reduced. Please remember when traveling through these work zones to slow down, move over if possible, put down the cell phone, driver sober and be prepared for slowing or stopped traffic ahead.

\*It should be noted that all five WisDOT regions are utilizing the reduced traffic volumes to perform additional or more efficient maintenance and construction projects.

## TIM Training in Wisconsin

As of December 31, 2019, Wisconsin has trained 15,426 of its 39,698 identified responders in the state in TIM. For 2020, the TIME program set a goal of increasing that number by 10 percent, or 1,542 additional responders. As of May 18, 2020, the program has trained 15,925. As you know, the program postponed all in-person training since March 13, 2020. We postponed 24 classes scheduled through May 31, 2020. Almost every one of the agencies stated they wanted to reschedule their class as soon as permitted. We are hoping for a very busy fall. By December 31, 2020, we hope to surpass our goal of 16,968 responders trained. Please help us accomplish this.

If you or your agency is interested in attending or hosting a 4-hour TIM class, please contact Dave Spakowicz at [david.spakowicz@dot.wi.gov](mailto:david.spakowicz@dot.wi.gov). Remember, there is **No Cost** to attend or host a class. We hope to see you in the fall!

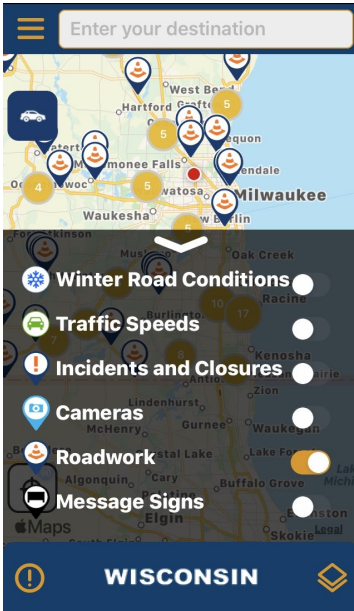


## Driving Progress: The New 511 Puts Motorists on Easy Street

By: Jon D. Riemann, Communication Manager

Whether you dial 511, use the new mobile app or log on to [511WI.gov](http://511WI.gov), an upgraded 511 Wisconsin Traveler Information System is ready to serve motorists throughout the state.

“511 helps people driving in Wisconsin choose the safest and easiest routes to their destinations,” WisDOT Secretary-designee Craig Thompson said. “Whether you use the app, the phone line or the web site, we are pleased to offer timely, detailed, custom information about weather issues, roadway emergencies or other alerts.”



The all-new 511 Wisconsin mobile app, available for Apple and Android devices, is the perfect companion to your preferred navigation app. With the 511 Wisconsin app running in the background, it can give audible alerts on incidents and closures as they occur on your route. A user can also explore the app, while parked of course, to turn on layers of information for incidents and closures, roadwork, winter road conditions, traffic speeds and more.

Calling 511 will connect you to an interactive state-of-the-art voice recognition system. Callers can say a roadway name, metro area or a destination – such as Lambeau Field -- to get relevant information.

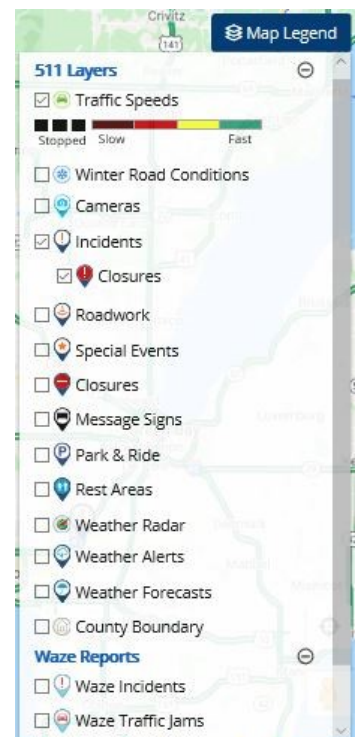
“One of the best enhancements of the new 511 Wisconsin Traveler Information System is the full integration between the three modules: the 511WI.gov website, the 511 Wisconsin mobile app and the 511-automated phone system,” explained Stacey Pierce, Traffic Management Unit supervisor at the WisDOT Traffic Management Center. “Once a user has set up the ‘My Routes’ feature, it doesn’t matter if they are on the web, in the app or calling 511, the user can receive personalized information for their chosen routes.”

Enhancements to the 511WI.gov website include user-selectable layers for information including incidents, project closures, camera images, weather radar and the introduction of crowd-sourced data from Waze.

The 511 Wisconsin Traveler Information System is the state’s official source for trusted roadway conditions and traffic impacts across Wisconsin providing travel times, traffic speeds, near real-time images of roads from traffic cameras, incident locations, maintenance and construction work along with project information including schedules, closures, contacts and maps for large construction projects throughout the state. This information is provided so drivers can make informed decisions about their travel plans.

511 Wisconsin was first launched in 2009 with an automated phone system and website. In 2015, the first mobile app was released.

For more information, visit the website at [511WI.gov](http://511WI.gov). Travelers can also follow @511WI on Twitter for real-time alerts.



## Regional TIME Meetings for the Fall of 2020

We hope to be back to in-person TIME meetings in the fall. As most of you are aware, we have been conducting virtual meetings for all spring meetings. We have also been recording them and placing them on the time program web page ([wisconsin.gov/time](http://wisconsin.gov/time)) for the people that didn't have the opportunity to participate when the meeting was held. We will be polling all regions in the fall to see if we should continue with the virtual meetings, host only in-person meetings again or a combination of both. These meetings are designed for you, the responder, and we strive to provide you with useful information during the meetings. Any suggestions you have for improving, please just let us know.

September	
<b>Wednesday, September 30, 2020</b> Northeast Region Green Bay	<b>9:00 AM – 11:00 AM</b> Howard Fire Department 2456 Glendale Avenue, Green Bay, WI 54313

October	
<b>Wednesday, October 7, 2020</b> Southwest Region Middleton	<b>9:00 AM – 11:00 AM</b> Middleton Fire Department 7600 University Avenue, Middleton, WI 53562
<b>Monday, October 12, 2020</b> Northwest Region Superior	<b>1:00 PM – 3:00 PM</b> WisDOT DTSD Office 1701 N. 4th Street, Superior, WI 54880
<b>Monday, October 12, 2020</b> Northwest Region Cumberland	<b>7:00 PM – 9:00 PM</b> Cumberland Fire Department 1060 Water Street, Cumberland, WI 54829
<b>Tuesday, October 13, 2020</b> Northwest Region Eau Claire	<b>9:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b> Eau Claire Fire Department – Station 10 820 Malden Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703
<b>Wednesday, October 14, 2020</b> North Central Region Merrill	<b>6:30 PM – 8:30 PM</b> Merrill Fire Department 110 Pier Street, Merrill, WI 54452
<b>Thursday, October 15, 2020</b> North Central Region Wisconsin Rapids	<b>1:00 PM – 3:00 PM</b> Wood County Sheriff's Department 400 Market Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
<b>Tuesday, October 20, 2020</b> Northeast Region Appleton	<b>1:00 PM – 3:00 PM</b> Outagamie Sheriff's Department (east entrance door) 3030 E. Goodland Drive, Appleton, WI 54911
<b>Monday, October 26, 2020</b> Northeast Region Sheboygan Falls	<b>5:30 PM – 7:30 PM</b> Town of Sheboygan Falls Fire Department N5480 County TT, Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
<b>Tuesday, October 27, 2020</b> Southwest Region Sparta	<b>9:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b> Monroe County Sheriff's Office 112 S. Court Street Room 500, Sparta, WI 54656
<b>Thursday, October 29, 2020</b> Southeast Region Franklin	<b>10:00 AM – 12:00 PM</b> Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office Training Academy 9225 S. 68th Street, Franklin, WI 53132

November	
<b>Monday, November 2, 2020</b> Southwest Region Baraboo	<b>7:00 PM – 9:00 PM</b> Baraboo Fire Department 135 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Baraboo, WI 53913



# TIM Instructors Wanted



## The Wisconsin Department of Transportation's Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Program is Accepting Applications for TIM Instructors



Do you believe the proper application of TIM principles at an incident scene makes all responders safer? Do you believe that TIM principles result in the quicker clearance of an incident? Do you want to teach your fellow responders these valuable tools? Then the TIME program would like you to join their ranks of instructors. The program currently has 154 TIME trained instructors from every region of the state, but we can always use more – the more diverse the instructor pool, the better the training for the responders.

The requirements for becoming and remaining a TIME program Instructor are 1.) You must attend the eight-hour FHWA "Train-the-Trainer" instructor program, and 2.) You are asked to teach at least one four-hour responder class per year (to remain current with the material).

All of the TIM instructors are 100 percent volunteer. The program does not have any funds available to compensate instructors for their time or travel. That is why we value their dedication to the program. They are volunteering their time for one reason, to teach fellow responders how to make an incident scene the safest possible. We always try and have two instructors from different disciplines at each four-hour class, with one of the instructors being from the discipline of the requesting agency. That's why we need a large pool of instructors from all corners of the state.

**There is no cost to attend the training.** This is the first time we are offering the eight-hour FHWA Train-the-Trainer course on a Saturday. We are doing this to make it more convenient to attend instead of a 10-hour course over two days during the week. The TIME program will provide lunch and all teaching materials. Please consider becoming a TIM instructor. It can be very rewarding!

The class will be held on **Saturday, October 3, 2020**, at the **Portage County Sheriff's Office in Stevens Point from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

The application is accessible through the below link.

[Application](#)

