

Troopers will monitor work zones

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For the second year, Illinois state troopers will be enforcing the state's work zone speeding law with photo enforcement vans that snap photos of speeding cars.

"April is the month when highway construction gets underway and we want the public to know that it is critical that they slow down and be on the lookout for workers and equipment in these work zones," said Milt Sees, acting director of the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Photo enforcement vans operated by state troopers were deployed for the first time last year. Three vans were active at various locations throughout the state and troopers issued more than 4,000 citations. A fourth van will be added later this year.

Since a state law took effect in 2004 that raised work zone speeding fines to \$375 for a first offense, the number of work zone fatalities dropped from 44, including five workers, in 2003, to 28 fatalities last year, including one worker. Second-time offenders face a \$1,000 fine and the loss of their drivers license for 90 days.

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