

Most Mainers know how to get where they're going on our interstate highway system. But it hasn't been so easy for the more than 50 million people who visit Maine each year and who are confused by duplicate exit numbers and inconsistent interstate route designations. The Maine Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority are working together to make changes that will clear up the confusion once and for all in 2004.

From exit numbers to mile markers

The old way of numbering exits on Maine's highways has resulted in confusion. For example, on I-95 there are two Exit 2s (one in Kittery and one in Wells). Exits 3 and 4 are duplicated on I-95, as well.

This duplication will be a thing of the past when in mid-2004 we introduce a new exit numbering system based on mileage. The new mileage-based system will not only eliminate duplication, it also will give travelers a better sense of where they are and how far they need to travel to reach their destination. Today, 37 states use a mileage-based system.

Getting to the 'route' of the problem

Maine will also re-introduce consistency and common sense to our interstate route designations. Today, travelers heading north on the Maine Turnpike are baffled by the way the toll road suddenly changes from I-95 to I-495 just north of Portland. Similarly, northbound travelers on I-295 are at a loss to explain why the highway switches to I-95 in Falmouth.

It's time to clear up the confusion. Beginning in 2004, the entire Maine Turnpike from Kittery to Augusta will become I-95 – plain and simple. Where the Maine Turnpike ends in Augusta, I-95 will continue all the way from Augusta to Houlton. Likewise, I-295 will begin, as it does today, in Scarborough and will extend through Portland, Brunswick and all the way to Gardiner – no more sudden route changes.

Getting the word out.

We want to give Maine residents and businesses plenty of time and all the information they need to prepare for the changes. For more information, please contact the Maine Department of Transportation (1-800-877-9171 or www.state.me.us/mdot) or the Maine Turnpike (1-877-682-9433 or www.maineturnpike.com).

Maine Interstate Redesignation

(Changes to occur mid-2004)



Interstate Route & Exit Numbers

- Existing Exit Numbers
- Future Mileage Numbers
- Future I-95
- Future I-295

