



NJDOT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

For Immediate Release:
December 29, 2024

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UPDATE

I-80 eastbound expected to reopen Monday as emergency sinkhole repairs near completion in Wharton, Morris County **Final paving, striping and guiderail work remain**

(Trenton) – I-80 eastbound is expected to reopen on Monday, December 30 as emergency sinkhole repairs near completion in Wharton, Morris County. Weather conditions are impacting the paving, however NJDOT will provide an update on Monday with an estimate on when I-80 will reopen.

NJDOT crews have worked around the clock through the holiday weekend despite inclement weather to stabilize and repair the sinkhole on I-80 eastbound, near mile post 34. Final paving, restriping, and installing guiderail remain to be completed before the road can reopen. As long as no problems are encountered as the work is being finalized, I-80 eastbound should reopen tomorrow.

Repairs included excavating and stabilizing the 40-foot by 40-foot sinkhole, and the installation of a wire mesh, stone aggregate, and a concrete layer that was topped with additional fill and compacted before several layers of asphalt were put down to reconstruct the road. In addition, the slope was reconstructed.

I-80 eastbound remains closed while the repairs are being completed. Motorists are advised to seek alternate routes, such as Route 46, or use the following detour until the road reopens on Monday:

Route 46 eastbound Alternate Route:

- Motorists on I-80 eastbound are advised to take Exit 28/Route 46 eastbound to Route 10/Ledgewood/Lake Hopatcong, which is several miles before the closure
 - Continue on Route 46 eastbound
 - Stay in the left two lanes to turn left at the traffic signal to continue on Route 46 eastbound
 - Turn left onto Route 15 northbound in Dover back to I-80
- or
- Continue on Route 46 eastbound for about 12 miles and stay left for I-80 eastbound

I-80 eastbound Detour:

- Motorists on I-80 eastbound are being directed to take Exit 34 to Route 15/Wharton/Dover/Sparta
- Stay right following signs for Route 15/Jefferson/Dover/Sparta
- Stay in the left lane on North Main Street to Route 15 southbound/To I-80/Dover
- Merge onto Route 15 southbound
- Stay left to take the exit to I-80 eastbound

The precise timing of the work is subject to change due to weather or other factors. Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website www.511nj.org for construction updates and real-time travel information. For NJDOT news follow us on X (Twitter) [@NewJerseyDOT](https://twitter.com/NewJerseyDOT), on the [NJDOT Facebook page](#), or Instagram [@NewJersey.DOT](https://www.instagram.com/NewJersey.DOT).

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