

Why Reverse Lanes?



The principal benefit of a reverse lanes evacuation is the ability to use the maximum number of highway lanes possible for evacuating people from a threatened area. It's a way to handle the additional traffic anticipated as Florida residents and visitors leave a coastal area in advance of a hurricane.

Reverse lanes evacuation plans are established for certain expressways and interstates in Florida. When the decision is made to activate a reverse lanes evacuation, sections of these highways are set up to route traffic in one direction, heading away from the approaching storm.

What to Expect

The ultimate decision on a reverse lanes evacuation rests with the Governor. If local and state officials determine



that a reverse lanes evacuation is necessary, the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) will begin preparing the route. The lanes to be reversed will be closed to incoming traffic and no vehicles will be permitted on the usual entry ramps. Motorists who normally travel these lanes will be diverted to alternate routes.

The FHP will conduct the reverse lanes evacuation. Be sure to obey all temporary traffic markers and follow the direction of the law enforcement officers along the route. A reverse lanes evacuation is designed to begin at a certain point, typically at a paved crossover in the highway median. It concludes at a predetermined location where the traffic on the reversed lanes is merged on to another highway. There you will be able to seek temporary shelter locally or continue traveling to another destination.

Getting Information

For traffic information in Florida, dial 511 or visit the Web site www.fl511.com. Traffic conditions and information on roads closed due to crashes can also be obtained from the FHP's Traffic Incident Web site, www.fhp.state.fl.us/traffic.

During reverse lanes evacuation, the FDOT will provide traffic and evacuation information on the 511 traveler information system.



Another information source is highway advisory radio. Watch for the roadside signs that direct you to tune your radio to the designated frequency to hear the alert. For those with Citizens Band (CB) radios, tune to Channel 19 for information.

Portable and fixed message signs will display traffic information and instructions along the reverse lanes evacuation route.

Emergency Alert System radio stations broadcast advisories you can receive along many of Florida's highways. Tune to these stations for weather alerts.

Important Tips

Because of the way they are structured, reverse lanes evacuation routes restrict your travel choices. You will find that many interchanges and exits will be closed, and that traffic will be directed to predetermined points - with no exceptions. This will limit the options you have to travel as you may have intended.



Remember that a reverse lanes evacuation plan may not reduce the travel time to your destination, or the amount of traffic congestion you encounter along the way - especially if you delay your departure. In fact, traffic may be flowing much more smoothly on roads other than interstates. For more flexibility in your evacuation planning, leave earlier and select an alternate route to your destination.

Other Things to Keep in Mind

- Before leaving, fill your vehicle with fuel.
- Use service plazas and rest areas for brief stops. Food and fuel supplies may be limited, and law enforcement personnel will ensure that traffic keeps moving.
- State law requires that travel lanes be kept clear. If your vehicle becomes disabled and you are stranded, the Road Ranger Service Patrols are instructed to push your car to the unpaved shoulder of the road. Road Rangers will assist in arranging transportation to the next interchange.
- If you are involved in a crash, remove all vehicles from the travel lanes as quickly as possible. If you are unable to move your vehicle, seek help from other motorists. Because law enforcement services will be generally limited to emergencies, drivers are urged to exchange the following information: driver's name, address, and vehicle registration number, along with the insurance carrier's name.
- For *incidents involving injuries* that require immediate medical attention, please wait for emergency responders away from traffic.



Contact Information

Florida Highway Patrol Dial *FHP
Florida DOT 1-866-374-3368
Florida Emergency Information.....1-800-342-3557
American Red Cross.....1-866-438-4636



On the Web

For more information on reverse lanes evacuation plans and their use on Florida highways, visit www.OneWayFlorida.org.



Motorist Advisory

REVERSE LANES EVACUATION

Plan for One-Way Evacuation of Interstate 10

A Publication of



Florida Highway Patrol



Florida Department of Transportation



Florida Division of Emergency Management

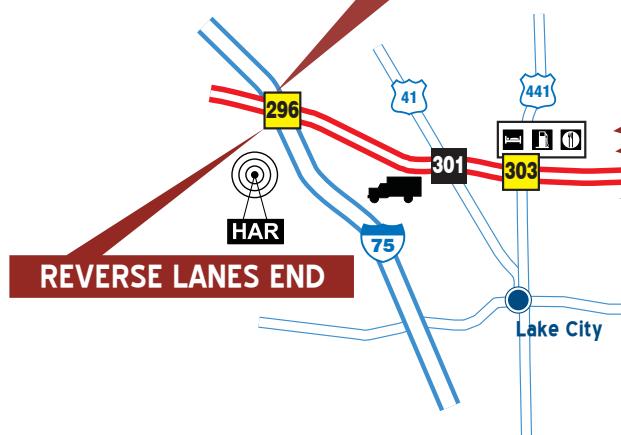
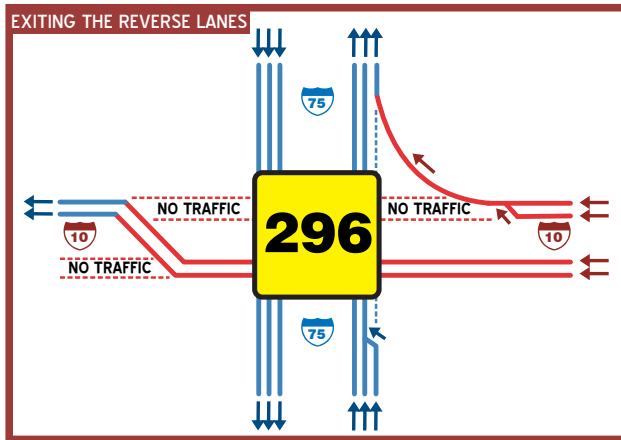
Reverse Lanes Evacuation Plan for I-10

The reverse lanes evacuation plan for I-10 is available for coastal residents intending to evacuate west. It begins at I-295 and continues west for 60 miles, ending at I-75 near Lake City.

If this reverse lanes evacuation plan is activated, all eastbound I-10 traffic must exit at U.S. 129 in Live Oak. All eastbound I-10 ramps along the route will also be closed. This will allow the reversal of the eastbound lanes so that all traffic will flow west along the I-10 reverse lanes evacuation route.

Alternate Route

Motorists seeking an alternate east-west route to the Panhandle can use U.S. 90.



Entering the Reverse Lanes Evacuation Plan

The I-10 reverse lanes evacuation plan begins in Jacksonville as westbound traffic approaches the I-295 interchange. There, the westbound I-10 lanes transition to the reverse lanes side using a two-lane crossover in the highway median. Northbound traffic on I-295 that exits at I-10 can also travel west on I-10 in the right-hand lanes, but there is no access to I-10 east for I-295 southbound traffic.

Exits from the regular westbound I-10 lanes are permitted at most interchanges along the way. Reverse lane exits are available at U.S. 301, SR 121, U.S. 90, and U.S. 441. These interchanges are highlighted in yellow on the map below.

Facilities Along the Route

Food and fuel are available at the I-10 exits for U.S. 301, SR 228, SR 121, U.S. 90 and U.S. 441. In Baker County, there is a rest area on both sides of I-10 and both will be open to motorists.

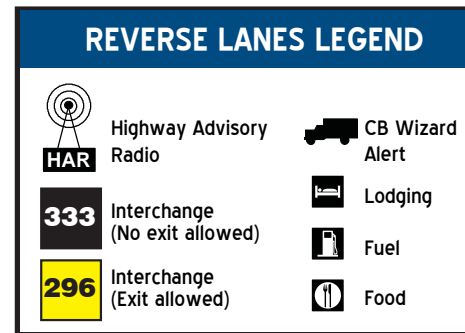
Local Agency Phone Numbers

American Red Cross of Northeast Florida (Jacksonville).....	904-358-8091
Capital Area American Red Cross (Tallahassee)	850-878-6080
Columbia County Emergency Management.....	386-758-1125
Suwannee County Emergency Management.....	386-364-3405
FDOT District 2 (Lake City).....	1-800-749-2967

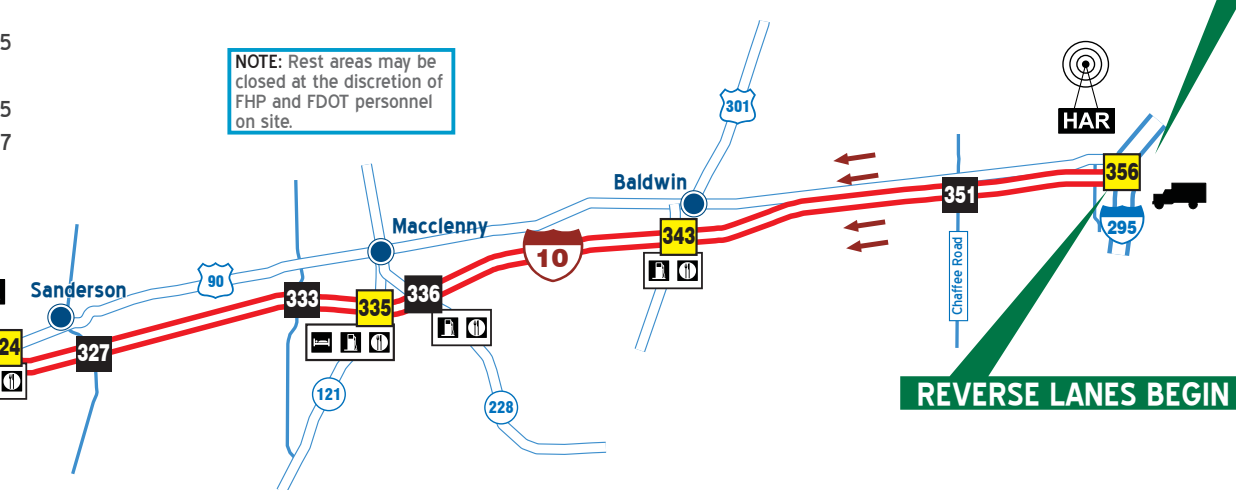
Exiting the Reverse Lanes Evacuation Plan

At the I-75 interchange, traffic in the normal westbound lanes must exit at the northbound I-75 on-ramp. Depending on traffic conditions, westbound I-10 vehicles may be allowed to take a second exit for I-75 southbound.

Immediately after the interchange, a two-lane median crossover is utilized to return the reverse lanes to the regular side of I-10 westbound. From there, these vehicles can proceed west to U.S. 129, U.S. 19 or on to Tallahassee.



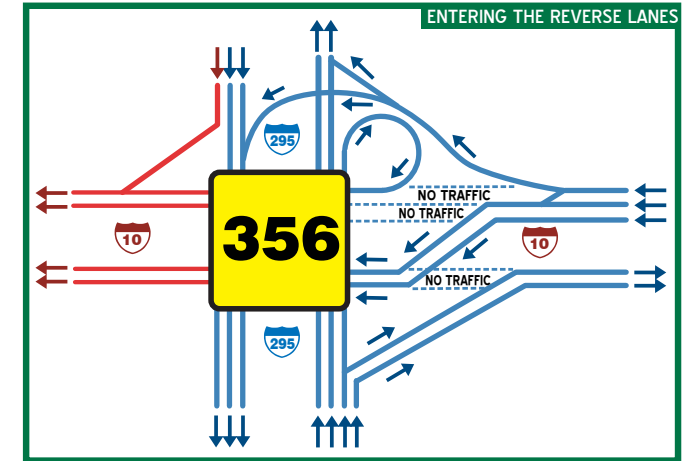
NOTE: Rest areas may be closed at the discretion of FHP and FDOT personnel on site.



On the Radio

Tune to the following radio stations for hurricane advisories and other important information from the Florida Public Radio Network.

Jacksonville	WJCT, 89.9 FM
Gainesville	WUFT, 89.1 FM
Tallahassee	WFSU, 88.9 FM



REVERSE LANES BEGIN