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Press Release

June 27, 2011

[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

MTA Bridges and Tunnels Ready for July Fourth Weekend Traffic

MTA Bridges and Tunnels will suspend all routine maintenance work at its seven bridges and two tunnels beginning Noon Fri., July 1st through the end of the morning rush on Tuesday, July 5th to help smooth travel for those who will be hitting the road for the long July Fourth holiday weekend.

In recent years traffic figures indicate that the Thursday is the new getaway day for the start of the holiday season, with more vehicles traveling on that day than the traditional pre-holiday Friday.

In 2010, 919,000 vehicles crossed MTA Bridges and Tunnels facilities on the Thursday before July 4th as compared with 880,000 on the Friday before the holiday. For the entire holiday weekend last year, including Thursday through Monday, some 3.9 million cars used MTA crossings.

For those who prefer to stay closer to home, the beaches along the Rockaway peninsula have always been a popular destination on July 4th weekend. In 2010, some 114,000 vehicles used the Cross Bay Veterans Memorial Bridge and Marine Parkway-Gil Hodges Memorial Bridge on the weekend days of July 3rd and July 4th so travelers planning to head to the Rockaway beaches this year should allow enough travel time.

One way to save both time and money is to use E-ZPass. At the Rockaway bridges, the E-ZPass savings over cash is \$1.45 per trip, and \$1.70 at most other MTA crossings. Make sure your E-ZPass is secured in your windshield since electronic equipment can't read the tag if it is not properly secured. Waving tags can result in motorists getting stuck at the gate. To learn more about getting an E-ZPass go to www.ezpassny.com or call 1-800 333-TOLL.



The Bronx-Whitestone Bridge during past fireworks display.